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The Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man

Hybridization.---No. 3

Nearly all the plants that are cultivated for utility or beauty, have sexual organs, corresponding to the sexual organs of animals. But while in the case of animals the male and female organs are separated by being placed upon different individuals, with plants it is most common to find them placed side by side on the same individual. Persons not familiar with botany will need to be told that the male organs are called *stamens*, and bear a substance, commonly a dry powder, called *pollen*; that the female organs are called *pistils*, and bear, generally at the top of a column, (the *style*), an exposed surface, the *stigma*, fitted to catch and hold grains of pollen that come in contact with it. The pistils contain the ovules from which seeds are developed, and the part of the pistils in which they are enclosed becomes the seed vessel, as the seeds ripen. There have probably been instances in which pistils have produced seeds without being influenced by the pollen, but in general it may be stated that a pistil never produces a seed unless it is fertilized by the pollen coming in contact with the stigma. Of course the action of the winds and of insects flying from flower to flower brings against the stigma pollen from plants of different species from that on which the stigma stands, and as the pollen always affects the character of the seed which its influence causes to grow, we might expect that if it were possible for the pollen of one species to fertilize the pistil or another species, there would be an inextricable tangle of hybrids covering the face of the earth. But it appears that the pollen of each species, when applied to pistils of the same species has a prepotency over alien pollen, so that when the former is applied at the same time or very soon after the latter, the influence of the alien pollen is entirely dispelled.

Therefore in attempting to hybridize between any two species of plants it is essential to prevent the pistil receiving pollen of its own species. To this end the flower to be operated upon must be covered with gauze to prevent insects getting access to it, for they would certainly carry pollen and frustrate the experiment. Next, if the plant be a *hermaphrodite*, that is, having the male and female organs in the same flower, as is the case with the apple, the lily and in fact most of our cultivated plants, the opening of the flower must be watched for, and the male organs carefully cut out before the pollen ripens and falls on the stigma. Having thus guarded against the danger of normal fructification, the next step is the application of the pollen of the species that is to be the father of the proposed hybrid. This is easily done, by brushing it on with a hairpencil or bringing the anther directly in contact with the stigma.

The cross-fertilization being thus affected the mother plant must be allowed to perfect the seeds. These seeds are to be planted, and if the operation was successful they will give rise to hybrids, having characters intermediate between those of the parents.

The chief value of the process seems to be that in one generation we can obtain a combination of qualities that it would take many generations of successive seed-growing and planting to effect. There is possible of course, a vast number of combinations of the qualities of the two parents, and therefore the hybrids may be expected to present a great variety of gradations from the poorest to the best; and in a large number of these it is reasonable to suppose that some at least will present combinations of the better qualities of both parents, thus rendering them superior to either parent alone. It is fair to acknowledge that the superiority of hybridization over continued normal propagation combined with high culture, in the production of improved varieties, is not accepted by all experts. Among others Mr. E. W. Bull, the originator of the Concord grape, is confident that better results can be obtained by the latter mode. Yet there seems to us abundant reason for attaching great importance to hybridization. Mr. Geo. Haskell, of Ipswich, Mass., has raised thousands of seedlings from wild native vines, and, although the operation was continued through several generations, has failed to obtain any perceptive variation from the original stock: he has now turned his attention to hybridizing, with flattering prospects of success.

Of Grapes. The name most prominently associated in the minds of American horticulturists with the hybridization of grapes is that of Edward S. Rogers of Salem. He was probably the first to effect it. In 1851 he fertilized flowers of the Mammoth Globe, a variety of, the Wild Fox Grape, (*Vitis Labrusca*), with pollen of Black Hamburg and Sweet water, varieties of the European Wine Grape, (*V. vinifera*). The seeds of the hybridized berries were sown, and the seedling vines thus obtained were found to partake of the character of both the European and American. In 1856 and 1857 these seedlings fruited, and the fruit bore out the evidence of the foliage. A large number of them were of very decided excellence when compared with their American parent. More than twenty varieties were thought worthy of being disseminated. The majority of these have been since discarded on account either of some defect, as tenderness or liability to disease, or a lack of positive good qualities; yet several of them, including the Salem, are now considered worthy of continued cultivation. The Salem is said to combine, to a satisfactory degree, the hardiness of our natives with the high quality of fruit of the European species.

In the same way Mr. J. F. Allen obtained Allen's Hybrid, a grape of high quality and combining the characters of the two species that produced it in a remarkable manner, by fertilizing the Isabella with pollen of the Golden Chasselas. It is unfortunately very tender. Recently another experiment, Mr. Charles Arnold of Paris, Canada, has fertilized a native species with pollen of several foreign varieties, and obtained hybrids of promise, the last of which he has named Othello, Cornucopia, Autochon, Brant, Canada. Dr. Underhill of Croton Point, has also originated two hybrids of merit, the Croton and the Senasqua. Numerous other propagators are at work in this field, and if we do not soon have a hybrid grape combining all desirable qualities, it will be because some of the desirable qualities do not exist in either parent species. The main thing now lacking is freedom from mildew and rot. We suggest that attention be turned to our native Frost Grape (*Vitis cordifolia*) and if it be found to withstand diseases, these that it be crossed with some variety of high quality among the cultivated sorts.

Of Cherries, Plums and Small Fruits. T. A. Knight of England originated several fine varieties by hybridization:—among them the Black Eagle Cherry, from the Bigarreau and May Duke; the Elton, from the Bigarreau and White Heart; and Coe's Golden Drop Plum. Within a few years has originated the Katie, a hybrid cherry, from the crossing of a Mazzard with a Duke variety.

Most of the cultivated varieties of strawberries are derived from a commingling of several species.

Mr. Chas. Arnold has also produced recently several hybrid raspberries. This is said to have been accomplished in England some time ago by the pomologist Rivers, but none of the fruits of his labors ever reached America.

Ornamental Plants. To the process of hybridization we owe many of our finest flowers. Whole classes of roses have undoubtedly been produced by this means. The *remontant* roses, or hybrid perpetuals, are derived from the crossing of the China rose (*Rosa Indica*) with one of the more common species. There is a large class of hybrid pinks, produced from crossing the different species of China, Broadleaved, Imperial, Sweet William and other pinks. The various species of Pelargoniums, Fuchsia, Calceolaria, and among shrubs of Azalea and Rhododendron have yielded a complicated series of hybrids. Perhaps no class of flowers presents a more notable instance of successful hybridizing than the varieties of Gladiolus. The original species seem to have been four in number, and from these have sprung, within a few years, an immense number of hybrids, of the greatest diversity of colors.

Of Vegetables, Grains &c. We are not aware of any direct efforts to hybridize our esculent vegetables, yet some of them are believed to have sprung from accidental crosses between different species. The Mangel Wurzel is one of these. Mr. Arnold, of the grapes and raspberries, claims to have produced a hybrid wheat, by crossing the Amber Michigan and Soules varieties. It does not appear however that botanists regard these kinds as different species, but only different varieties of the same species. In that case Mr. Arnold should have called his new wheat a *mongrel* instead of a *hybrid*. The same can be said of the so-called *hybrid wheats* exhibited in London in 1851.

Queries and Answers.

Lice on Apple-trees. I would inquire through the *Maine Farmer* what is good for lice on young apple-trees, or, if they are not lice, what are they? Will some one inform me?—L. B.

You should be more explicit. How in the world are the editors to know what they are without a single word of description? You might perhaps have enclosed a specimen in your letter; or, if that is impracticable, describe the creature. However, we will guess at it. We will guess that your young apple-trees are afflicted with bark lice. Bark lice when well grown appear like long curved oyster shells clinging close to the bark, which they resemble in color. They are, say one tenth or one eighth of an inch long. They begin life in early summer, or last of May, little white louse-like creatures, coming out from under the brown shells of their mothers. They are quite active for some days, and employ their time in spreading about all over the tree. They then attach themselves to the tree, piercing the bark, sucking out the juices, growing constantly, but never again moving. They are as tender as any insect when first hatched, but with age become very tough. The only ways that we know of to destroy them, are to scrape them off the tree, or give them a washing with soap-suds when they are in their tender infancy. The latter mode is the most practicable, and if these are the creatures that are troubling your trees, wait until next May, and then as soon as you can see the little creatures running about, give every part of the tree a swabbing with soap-suds. Meanwhile *don't buy or plant trees that are badly afflicted with bark lice.*

Alsike Clover. S. S., Phillips. Alsike clover cannot be had in Augusta. Try Kendall & Whitney, Portland. You will want only half the quantity of seed for a given area that you would sow of red clover, because the seed of the Alsike is smaller. Have your ground very smooth. If you try it, write us the result.

What ails the Calves?—The same correspondent says that one or more died in his neighborhood in the spring of '69 from "bunches in their necks;" and that three more were this year attacked in the same way, and *were sent to the butcher.* To send calves afflicted with an incurable and fatal disease, to be eaten, is highly censurable. As to the nature of the malady and its cure, a fuller description of the symptoms is needed before a reply can be given with confidence.

A Profitable Sow. Stephen Lord, of Hallowell, has a Newbury white sow, four years old, who has had five litters of pigs, averaging eleven to a litter, three of them twelve to a litter. The last litter of twelve were sold for $80 cash, at four weeks old. He has received from the several litters $260. A profitable pig speculation.

The Weather and the Crops.

The rains of last week were very welcome. They came in season for some crops, but too late for others. From several sections of Maine we hear complaints of the apples dropping off badly. A Phillips correspondent gives a lugubrious account of the effects of the drouth there. In Alna the corn crop was past cure, and will not be more than two-thirds of an average; barley about the same; potatoes promise fair; wheat, good yield and excellent quality; free from rust, showing some of the finest fields ever seen.

From other States the reports are generally encouraging. The wheat crop is reported fair in quantity and excellent in quality. The *Country Gentleman* estimates a decrease of 30 per cent in quantity in New York, but the reports are altogether so favorable that we cannot think there has been a great falling off. Oats are said to be short in New York and Ohio; good in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kansas and Tennessee. Corn is good everywhere; the same of potatoes.

Apples were promising unusually well, but in some places the drought dropped them off, and the general insects are at them in multitudes; still they will, we have no doubt, yield a heavy crop. In fact, all fruits are abundant. For grapes, the season was never better. They are very forward. In New York Concords began to color the last of July, some weeks earlier than ever known before, a month earlier than last year. No disease has yet appeared among the vines or fruit. "If we could always have such a season as this," says the exultant reporter from Syracuse, "this would be the finest grape-growing country in the world."

The drouth of early summer was very unfavorable for the nurserymen in New York. It was too much for the plantings of seeds and seedling stocks. "In some grounds, where the finest young trees had been set out in the best manner, not one in twenty survived, in plantations of hundreds of thousands."

Editorial Notes.

The public session of the Board of Agriculture this summer is fixed on the 30th and 31st of August and 1st of September, *at the village of Foxcroft and Dover.* Farmers' Clubs are particularly invited to send delegates. A fuller announcement will be made before the time arrives.

We insert on this page a communication from Hon. T. S. Lang, on the Knox Stock. It will be of interest not only to horse breeders and dealers, but to every one who appreciates the qualities of a perfect horse.

The sketch of Dr. Dexter Baldwin, which appears in another column, was written by D. H. Thing, Esq., of Mt. Vernon, who during the last year has contributed many excellent articles to the *Farmer*, and from whom we may expect many more.

History of the Knox Stock.

I hand you the following history of "General Knox," a portion of which was published in the *Maine Farmer* some years since, and has been called for so frequently that I am induced to reprint, and I accompany the article with a very perfect likeness of the horse.

The imposition practised upon the public by calling many animals offered for sale "Knox horses," that have no blood of Knox or his colts in their veins, has led me to prepare a circular for use among breeders, giving the names and residence of all gentlemen who have bred to "Gen. Knox," and the date of service, which will be circulated before long.

"Gen. Knox," now 14 years old, was sired by Sherman Black Hawk, out of a bay mare by "Young Hambletonian." Young Hambletonian got by "Harris's Hambletonian," dam by "Leonidas," g. d. by "Im. Bellfounder." (See Wallace's American Stud Book, pages 958 and 963.) "Sherman Black Hawk's" dam was by "Young Hambletonian."

I purchased "Gen. Knox" of Messrs. Denny & Bush, whose breeding establishment was near the east shore of Lake Champlain, in the town of Shoreham, Vt. The purchase was made in Jan., 1859. Knox was then three years old, and was called "Slasher" by his owners; he was dropped, as I was informed, in Ticonderoga, New York. At the same time I purchased and brought to Maine the stallion "Son of Ethan," by Ethan Allen, and "Bucephalus," by old "Black Hawk"—dam of Bucephalus, the celebrated mare Mary Taylor, she by "Bolivar, a thorough-bred horse —Mary Taylor's dam by Abdallah. I mention "Bucephalus'" pedigree thus, as it may interest some breeders in Penobscot County. A few days after the purchase of General Knox, I purchased the stallion "Black Hawk Telegraph" of W. G. Baldwin of Ticonderoga, N. Y., at the same time the stallion "Grey Fox," by Ethan Allen, and the well bred mare "Priscilla." "Black Hawk Telegraph," after serving in the stud two seasons at Vassalboro', was sold with "Gray Fox" and Priscilla, May, 1861, to R. S. Denny, Esq., of Clappville, Mass. Telegraph was burned in the great fire at Riverside track. "General Knox" and "Son of Ethan" I retained in service. I also bought the stallion "Sharon" by old "Witherell," he by "Winthrop Messenger," he by "Imp. Messenger." "Sharon was sold to William H. Ladd, Esq., President of the Ohio Agricultural Society. Subsequently I bought the stallion "Ned Davis," by "Old Drew;" also, the stallion "Trenton," by George M. Patchen—dam of "Trenton," a thorough-bred mare. "Trenton" was bred upon the Bonaparte estate, New Jersey.

The horse "Trenton" served three years in the stud, one in Vassalboro' and two in the town of Athens, in the care of Mr. Brice Palmer, when he was removed from the stud on account of his vicious habits. Later I purchased the stallion known as the "Palmer Horse," by "Old Drew." This horse stood for service one season in Maine, then was sold in Massachusetts. It may not be amiss to name the gelding "Cloudman," as I am often asked his pedigree. Cloudman was by "Hiram Drew," out of a mare supposed to be of Messenger blood. He was a remarkably finely developed horse, and should have been kept a stallion—trotted in 2 30 to a one hundred and twenty-eight pound wagon, in less than one month's training. Subsequently trotted a mile in 2 22, and a half in 1 6.

I next bought of Alden Goldsmith, Esq., the proprietor of the Hambletonian stallion "Volunteer" the grey stallion "Gideon," by "Rysdick's Hambletonian," he by Abdallah, by Mambrino, by Imp. Messenger. Dam of Gideon was a half sister to Lady Suffolk by thorough-bred Engineer, he by Engineer, and he by Imp. Messenger, "Gideon" is now owned by Foster S. Palmer, Esq. This horse, for which I paid $2,500 at four years old, I consider one of the best descended horses ever brought to Maine, since old Messenger's time, and confidently believe that time will satisfy breeders of the value of this infusion of this branch of approved blood among our Drew, Messenger and Morgan stock. To return to Gen. Knox, who represents one branch of the Messenger and Morgan blood, will describe as follows: black, with brownish stifles, flanks and nose, star in the forehead and strip of white on the upper lip and nose, is fifteen and a half hands high, and weighs 1050 pounds, in fair condition, ample mane and tail, small, well-formed ears, broad head between the eyes, tapering to a thin, well-defined nose, rather thick neck, excellent fore-leg well under the body, hind leg quite remarkable for development of hock muscle—which he transmits to many of his colts—hock and knee joints well-defined. The feet are perfect, the shell of unusual thickness and toughness, the body round and compact, the back is short, and the loin as strong as can be found. In speaking of these qualifications, I cheerfully invite the readers to criticise my description whenever they may see the horse. I may add that in all his sweating and working, he has never shown the first symptom of scratches or foul blood, has never cut a hair upon his fore feet in trotting or breaking. His temper is always good, always cheerful and full of spirits and ambition, and never nervous at the most exciting sights and noises. Strike him in anger or abruptly, and it must be a strong man to hold him even when tired with trotting, yet entirely under the control of the voice—attaches himself readily to those who pet him, and when away from home on the cars or boat, lies down to rest readily if his groom lies down near him. While speaking of his intelligence, I will refer to the occasion of his coming in collision while at speed upon the Waterville grounds, for the gratification of the crowd. He was run into and his driver thrown out by parties going in an opposite direction. By this accident "Knox" suffered seriously, having his breast and the space between his fore-legs cut open nearly twenty inches long, and the skin entirely taken off a space one foot square, and the muscle lacerated shockingly, yet in the presence of a large crowd, he, perfectly conscious of his injury, allowed himself to be sewed up without a halter or a strap upon him, or moving from his tracks.

Knox trotted for the first time in public at Augusta, at the State Agricultural Show in 1859, beating the horse Brandy in 2.54; both colts were four years old. His next public work was a few days after this first race, when he trotted for the first stallion purse, of any age, of the North Kennebec Agricultural Society at Waterville, which he won. His next appearance upon the track was in June, 1860, when five years old, when he trotted to show his gait—being then in service at Augusta—in 2.41. But not getting any business in the stud, he returned to Vassalboro', and on the 3d of July went to Skowhegan, and on the next day, July 4th, trotted against the Drew stallion "Penobscot Boy." Knox lost the first heat in 2.52, having broken his martingal ring, and could not be held. The next heat Knox won in 2.40¼ without a break. Third heat, "Penobscot Boy" was drawn. His next public trial was against "Lewiston Boy" and "Kettle-bail" at the Maine State Agricultural Show at Augusta. Kettle-bail lost a shoe on first heat, and was drawn. Knox won the first and second heats. In the third heat, which was also given to Knox by the judges, Knox ran badly, Mr. Palmer not being able to hold him. I publicly declined to accept the race unless fairly won, and preferred to try another heat. Knox having a change of bit, was in hand and won the 4th heat. This race was in the rain, and the track very muddy—time 2 44. On the next day Knox was entered to make a field with Hiram Drew—no other stallion having entered. Knox was drawn after the first heat, not being able to compete with so fast a horse. The next year, being notified early that a horse fair would be holden in Bangor, I prepared my stock to show at that time, but when the bills came out, my horses were barred out on account of being foaled out of the State. I wrote to a manager desiring to be allowed to compete, as my horses expected to stand at service in Maine, as they had been doing, but was notified that it was too late to change the programme.

Knox had been trotting quite well, in his work showing 2.30 and under, quite readily. The next year, being seven years old, Knox was drawn early from his services in the stud, to be prepared to meet the Drew stallion, "Gen. McClellan," then owned by G. M. Robinson, Esq., of Augusta, Mr. Robinson having by letter expressed his desire to bring the two horses together. Knox was fitted at the half-mile track at Skowhegan. He worked well in his private trials, showed 2.30, 2 28, and once 2.26. While at this track preparing to meet Gen. McClellan, Knox was entered to trot two races in one afternoon, one in the stallion purse with Penobscot Boy, his former competitor, and the other, in the sweepstakes with Mr. Henry Taylor's black gelding Lucknow. Penobscot Boy was drawn at the close of the second heat, and Lucknow at the close of the first heat, in their respective races. A few days later Knox entered in the sweepstakes of the Waterville Horse Association, expecting to meet Gen. McClellan. The day of the race, Mr. Robinson declined to enter McClellan, he having been beaten a few days before at the Maine State Agricultural Show at Portland, by Hiram Drew, and Hiram was now present, and had entered for the sweepstakes. Knox beat Hiram easily in three straight heats, without a break, best time 2.32. Knox was fitted for this race in twenty-two days from the services of the stud, having served one hundred and thirty-six different mares since April. This season, now near a close, had shown me such qualifications in Knox, as made me desirous to draw him from the track altogether, that his services might be had in the stud without hindrances, and publicly expressed that determination in the stand. However, during the next spring "Knox" was challenged to meet "Hiram Drew" in June, at Bangor. I declined for reasons which were published, but offered as publicly to trot Knox against Hiram upon the Bangor track in September, without stakes, but for the Champion belt. This was declined.

The reason which induced me to give up my determination not to trot Knox again, was that I desired to satisfy the public that I did not withdraw him because he had beaten Hiram Drew, and I supposed that Mr. Shaw did not desire to try him again with Hiram. Had I held the champion belt, I should have expected to have complied with the requirements whenever called upon, as I do not doubt Mr. Shaw was ready to do, if called upon. However, I was now called upon by the Trustees of the New England Society, myself being one of them, to rally the Maine horses to meet and compete for the honors of New England at the fair at Springfield. I did not assume to speak for Maine, but I did assume to let Knox fight for the honor of Maine in the absence of any better horse, against the chances of bringing him home crest-fallen. The result was Knox beat Draco and two other stallions who entered against him, without a skip, in 2 31½, 2.37 and 2.34. Horsemen who were there well know that Knox was held in hand the last half of each heat, scarcely jogging to the score in the first heat, as I walked under the wire with my hand upon his saddle, and for several rods before he passed the wire on his fastest heat.

Knox had that season served since April, one hundred and twelve different mares, and left fifteen awaiting service when he left home for Springfield. In five days after leaving service, I had him tried at Waterville, (half mile track.) He trotted in 2 30. and repeated in 2 28. I started him for Springfield on Thursday morning, arrived there Sunday morning, trotted him Thursday, and came back to Boston same night, making in all twenty-one days from the time he was drawn from service until he had travelled upon cars and boat three days and nights without rest, won his race and was bound home. I never saw him in such fine condition and spirits as while at Springfield, and after a close examination by the committee, he was awarded the first stock premium, as well as for speed. Whether the horse was looked upon by judges as a trotter the reader must judge, when I say that, at a public table, four prominent horsemen of New England publicly offered me $15,000 $20,000, $25,000 and $30,000 for him the evening after the race. If Knox was worth that for Massachusetts or New York, he was worth it for Maine, therefore I brought him home; and when I see such animals as the "Gilbreth Knox," "Gen. Logan" or the "Littlefield Horse," "Black Sultan," Gen. Sherman," "Plato," "Lexington," "Col Knox," "Myers Horse," "Thom Knox," "Skowhegan Boy," "Lawrence Horse," "Hoe's" "Larkin's," "T. S. Lang," "Col Lang," "Nell Seavey," "Sampson Mare," "Watts Mare," "Carr Mare," "Sampson Horse," "Means Mare," "Sturgs Horse," "Abbott Horse," not to name a large number lately sold at the highest average that any colts of any horse yet ever sold for in Maine, I repeat, when I see such animals among those of his first few years service, I am not sorry he was brought back to Maine. Nor am I sorry that my neighbors and friends can share with me the value of this fine animal.

In the fall of 1865, there seemed to be a feeling on the part of the friends of the Drew stock to see McClellan (who had been making extraordinary time at Belfast and else where) and Knox come together again. I therefore entered him in the sweepstakes at the fair of the Horse Association at Waterville, and left for Canada, my health having entirely given out. The day previous to the day for the sweepstakes trial, Mr. Palmer was thrown from his sulky, and badly injured, so as to be unable to drive. No other person ever drove him, and my friends were unwilling to take the responsibility to select a driver, therefore Knox was drawn, I then felt it was best to withdraw Knox entirely from the track, feeling that the friends of the Drew stock having shown their readiness to meet Knox, could not complain at my decision. Knox has not trotted since, except in August, 1866, a few days before I left for Europe; fearing that I might never see the horse again, I requested Mr. Palmer to drive him a half mile over the usual exercise ground where he had been trained at speed. Although the horse was then in service, this was done in the presence of many spectators, without a break, in 1.12.

Since my departure for Europe in 1866, the horse has not been trotted in public. Although fitted partially in the fall of 1869 to try his speed at the New England Fair at Portland, he was accidentally lamed by a stroke in his fore ankle, and unable to appear in a race. Since April of the present year his services have been called for each day, and will be an increase upon any year's service.

I have no desire in writing this history of "Knox" to place him in any false light before the public interested in horses, or to detract one atom from the great value and admiration due to the many splendid horses in the stud in Maine for ten years past or at present. Not one of them that does not possess traits which I wish I could add to the Knox and his good points. The good sense of the reader must see, that these good points united and fixed by coupling through several generations, will bring Maine out a winner.

Take the Drew stock which has done so much for the State with its fine breeding, color and action, coupled with the size and stride of "Knox," his temper, feet, and limbs and loins, and extraordinary constitution, and what finer cross can there be. Or the Eaton with their color, size and feet, and it is but necessary to refer to it to see the value of this cross. Or the Hambletonian with their gait and blood, long in a trotting line. Or the Thoroughbred, which like oak or iron to a ship is necessary, absolutely necessary, if Maine intends to keep up with other localities in breeding fast stock. I do not care who beats, if fairly done, but I do want to know how it is done, that I may benefit thereby—that I may select the qualifications in the stock that leads to winners, and I assure the patrons of "Gen Knox" that I sincerely wish each one would raise a horse that would beat him, especially if it brings to Maine buyers from the great markets. Is it to be supposed for one moment that "Gen. Knox," or "Gilbreth's Knox," or "Gen. Logan," or "Black Sultan" can attend to all the service wanted among the twenty thousand breeding mares in Maine? There is enough for all that are possessed of proper qualifications or antecedents to breed from, and I want to urge the breeder not to breed a poor unworthy mare or horse; it is time and money lost.

There many admirable animals of each class of stock which are in service in Maine, and I wish it was in my power to convince breeders of the necessity of proper selections of dams. More than one half of the mares now bred in Maine are physically unfit to reproduce, expecting a desirable progeny—I doubt not Messrs. Gilbreth, Drew, Butman, Norcross and other intelligent horsemen will coincide in this view.

Before closing, I wish to say to the breeders of Knox stock, one and all: the time for holding the State Fair approaches. The stock in which you are interested takes a leading position among fanciers in New England, and your success and that of the stock depends upon your showing advantageously. Turn it all out then where it may be shown and appreciated. Gen. Knox will be there, and his friends are not afraid to compare with the best. Do not keep them at home, bring out the older and the younger, and let the public see them.

T. S. Lang.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Sketch of a Prominent Reformer.

"The chamber where the good man meets his fate
Is privileged above the common walks of life."—Young.

Agreeable to your request, I have prepared the following sketch of Dr. Dexter Baldwin, so long and favorably known in this part of our State, as the fast and earnest friend of whatever tended to the benefit of his fellowmen or to raise the standard and dignity of the laborer or the value of his earnest toil.

It can hardly be supposed that each item of matter which goes to make up your very excellent paper, will be of special interest to all your readers, but to the people of Readfield, Fayette, Chesterville, Mt. Vernon, Vienna, Rome and to many throughout the State the following sketch will be of very particular interest.

Perhaps nothing is more rarely met with in our experience than an unselfish man, and among all the men with whom I have been acquainted no one has a stronger claim to that distinction that the subject of this paper.

Dr. Baldwin was the second son of Isaac Baldwin, was born in Autrim, N. H., July 5, 1798, died in Framingham, Mass. (village of Saxonville), May 27th, 1870, and his body rests in Mt. Auburn.

He received his early education at the district schools of Antrim and Amherst, took a regular course of study at Philips Academy, Andover, Mass., studied medicine with Dr. George, of Boscowen, N. H., and received his medical degrees at Dartmouth College, Aug. 20th, 1828. The same year he started on horseback, his estate consisting of his horse and saddle-bags, his hard-earned education, and a would-not-be-denied determination to succeed. He first settled in Readfield, where he stopped till 1825, when he removed to Mt. Vernon, where he remained till 1848 in the large and successful practice of his profession, when he removed to Northboro', Mass., and practiced six years, he then moved to Boston, where he lived till 1860, when he removed to Saxonville, where he entered into practical agriculture with the same enthusiasm which characterized him in all his undertakings, and in which he fully demonstrated the value of scientific knowledge when applied to the same.

It was characteristic of him ever after he came to Mt. Vernon, to do whatever his hand or his mind found to do with all his might, not waiting to analyze public opinion or court popular favor, but doing *right* because it was *right*. He was known throughout this entire region for his persistent efforts for the suppression of selling and drinking ardent spirit, and for which hundreds, when they read this will bless his memory. He was untiring in his endeavors to advance the cause of religion, popular education, human liberty, the development of the resources of our State, and particularly for the inauguration of a better system of agriculture. It is my purpose to speak of him in connection with agricultural matters, but I wish to speak of one incident in connection with political history, which is firmly fixed in my memory, though then but a boy. He cast the first abolition vote ever cast in this town. When the votes were counted and that one found, some one sneeringly remarked, "Dr. Baldwin."

The doctor, who was a splendid specimen of the physical man, raised himself upon his toes, and shouted, "Yes sir, Dr. Baldwin! and you and I shall live to see the day when a vote like that will be the rule and not the exception in this town."

He was a thorough and untiring student in chemistry, and remarkably skillful as a mechanic, and it was his delight while riding about the country in the practice of his profession, to call upon the farmers and explain to them the chemical properties of their soils and crops, and urge upon them the importative necessity of replacing in some way the mineral substances which they were continually extracting from their fields, the importance of saving and economizing manure, to explain the particular fertilizers needed by different crops, and to explain the principles of mechanics as applied to agricultural implements.

In his farming operations, which were necessarily somewhat limited, he was always in advance of the times. If he succeeded in bringing one up to his standard, he was still forward, like Napoleon at the bridge of Lodi, beckoning his followers onward.

His garden was the admiration of all. To those of us who were accustomed to see a fruit garden consisting of a few straggling currant and gooseberry bushes set under the side of the fence, it was a marvel to see the nicely-trimmed and cleanly cultivated bushes and trees upon his grounds. He brought a few of the scions of the Hubbardston Nonsuch from Massachusetts, and from them they have been scattered through this and the adjoining towns.

His stern hatred of everything mean and worthless he carried into farming with him. His special hobby was clean cultivation, and the last time I saw him it was his boast, that upon his place, which he claimed to be the most beautiful place in that most beautiful town of Framingham, *there could not be found a weed growing.*

At the formation of the first Agricultural Society in Maine, he entered into it with a will, clearly foreseeing that good would result from it. He served many years on committees, and was ever its friend and defender. He was the life-long friend of Dr. Holmes, and was often consulted by him on matters of agricultural chemistry.

His various knowledge was always used with the desire to benefit his fellowmen, and never in the spirit of self-conceit or egotism.

The great distinguishing feature in his character was his universal benevolence. He was what Pope has declared to be the noblest work of God, an honest man. I should be glad to speak of his early efforts in favor of a railroad through the valley of the Kennebec, of his labors to advance the cause of education and to inspire the minds of the young with the love of sacred music, but space forbids.

Dr. Baldwin was twice married, first to Caroline Peabody, of Franklin, N. H., and second to Lavina B., daughter of Dean Howard, Esq., of Winthrop, Me., who survives him, by both of which he left children.

Mt. Vernon, July, 1870.

For the Maine Farmer.

Entomological Notes.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mr. Brackett, Sir: The enclosed specimens were found two days ago, upon a lilac bush. One of them, the largest, we have not seen move; the other, just at dusk moved on to another leaf which was partly eaten, but returned before morning. They are now about the color of the leaf upon which they are seen, with gold bands around the neck and tail and eyes.

As we did not know whether they were friends of the farmer or not, we have sent them to you, thinking if they were of importance you might say so in the Farmer: Respectfully, Maria S. Crooker.

Monson, July 28th, 1870.

The catapillars came duly to hand. Though the smaller was dead and shrivelled before I had time for examination, they were probably alike. I fed the live one on lilac leaves this morning, August 1st, and he ate as though he had fasted for some days. It is the larva of one of the Sphinges or Sphinx caterpillars and is probably *Sesia pelasgus*, or *diffinis*. These clear winged sphinges are distinguished by their transparent wings and fan shaped tails when in the perfect or winged state. They hover over flowers during the day time, sucking their sweets, and are often mistaken for humming birds, as they most resemble a bird of any of the specimens of the insect world. They are not specially destructive as they are not usually found in large numbers.

(G. D., Belfast):—The "bug with the big eyes" which you found in the shipyard was no doubt the big snapping beetle, *Alaus oculatus*. The parts you took for eyes from a casual observation are not eyes at all but spots of black surrounded by white oval rings. In its larval state it is a grub and lives in old and dead wood; therefore it is not a dangerous or specially destructive "animile."

(Mary A. E. L.):—The "worm with the sting on his tail" which you found in your garden is not dangerous as you infer. It is entirely harmless. There is no sting. The protuberance is simply a horn the use of which is not known; perhaps it's the fashion with them to wear prominent "on-to-hinds" like the female sex of the genus homo. At any rate you need have no fears of injury from them on that account. They should be ploxed off and crushed under foot.

I have neither seen or heard of any potato beetles (*Lema tri-lineata*) or "potato bugs" as they are popularly termed, this season, and I think our fields will almost wholly escape them. It seems that the Colorado potato bug which is almost similar is fast coming eastward, having reached Ohio and the middle States according to newspaper reports.

Grasshoppers are thick in some parts of our own State. In some sections of Utah its said they have devoured every green thing.

For the Maine Farmer.

Meteorological Observations.

An abstract of the meteorological observations taken at the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, for the month of July 1870, by Prof. M. C. Fernald.

Latitude 40 degrees, 53 minutes, 10 seconds North. Longitude 68 degrees, 38 minutes, 57 seconds West. Altitude above the sea, 134 feet.

Mean temperature for the month, 68°.88.
Maximum temperature, 94.0.
Minimum temperature, 48.0.
Mean of warmest day, 24th, 82.2.
Mean of coldest day, 1st, 58.5.
Mean per centage of cloudiness, .40.
Amount of rain or melted snow in gauge, 1.78 in.
Direction and force of winds—N. W. and W. .26; S. W. and S. .58; S. E. and E. .10; N. E. and N. .06.
Mean height of barometer in inches, 29.758.
Maximum " " " 29.980.
Minimum " " " 29.543.
The mean force of vapor sufficient to sustain a column of mercury in height .499 in.
Mean humidity of the atmosphere .71.

Below I forward for publication, a meteorological record of the weather, &c., for the month of July, 1870.

	Sunrise.	1 P. M.	Sunset.	Mean.	
Mean of month,	56¼	81½	67	68½	
Maximum,	69	97	74	79	July 24th.
Minimum,	46	68	59	60	July 1 & 28.

Two days northeast and northeast wind during the month; one day east and southeast; seventeen days south and southwest; eleven days west and northwest; prevailing wind, southwest. Mean of warmest day, 24th, 79 degrees; mean coldest day, 1st and 28th, 60 degrees each. Mean of July for sixteen years, 67 degrees; so the past July was one and a quarter degrees warmer than the average. Warmest July in sixteen years, 1857, 71½ degrees: coldest, 1864, 64½ degrees; mean of July, 1869, 66½ degrees; July, 1870, 68¼, or two degrees warmer than last year. Month warmer than the average, with greater number than usual of warm, clear days, intermingled with light, frequent showers, so that the earth was sufficiently watered for the growth of vegetation, which grew with rapid strides during the month. Farmers finished haying in this section August first; the crop of fine quality secured in good order though something less than last year.

Yours truly, J. F. Blake.

Winterport, Aug. 4, 1870.

Agricultural Miscellany.

Fall Ploughing.

Without elaborating the many strong points in favor of Fall Ploughing, a few of the more prominent benefits may be briefly stated as follows:

1. August and September is a good time to turn over bound-out sod land, and manure and reseed it at once to grass, obtaining a crop of hay the following year.

2. October and November is an excellent time to break up sod land for planting the following spring.

3. The weather is then cool and bracing, and the team strong and hearty for the work; while the weather in spring is more relaxing and team less able; and spring work being always hurrying, it saves time to despatch as much of the ploughing as possible during the previous autumn.

4. Sod land broken up late in autumn will be quite free from growing grass the following spring, the roots of the late overturned sward being so generally killed by the immediately succeeding winter that not much grass will readily start in spring.

5. The frosts of winter disintegrate the ploughed land, so that it readily crumbles in fine particles in spring, and a deep, mellow seed bed is easily made. The chemical changes and modifications resulting from atmospheric action during the winter, develope latent fertility in the upturned furrows, which together with the mellowing influences, materially increase the crop.

6. Most kinds of insects are either wholly destroyed, or their depredations materially checked, by late fall ploughing; especially the common white grub, and the cut worm.

7. Corn stubble land may be ploughed late in fall, and thus be all ready for very early sowing in spring, thereby going far to insure a good catch of grass; the roots of the new seeding getting hold well, or being well established before the droughts of summer come on.

8. Most land in New England needs deeper ploughing than has generally been practiced. Where the subsoil is fine grained, and unctuous, and close, or where there is a hard pan of good quality, deep ploughing may be at once resorted to, with decided advantage. Where the subsoil is poorer, the ploughing may still be advantageously deepened by degrees, say an inch at each new breaking up. But in by far a majority of cases, deep ploughing may be practiced at once,—indeed, it may be the *rule*, with safety, while shallow ploughing may be the *exception*. Plough say nine, ten, eleven or twelve inches in November. The subsoil turned up will grow several shades darker by spring. The frosts and atmospheric influences of winter will mellow the soil, the inorganic elements and all latent fertility will be made more active for benefitting the crop. In spring, spread the manure and plough it in, or otherwise work it in or mingle it with the soil, to the depth say of four inches, or a little more or less, and you have the very best attainable condition for realizing good crops. Deeper ploughing may thus be practiced than would at all times be safe, or expedient, if the ploughing is delayed till spring.—*Mass. Ploughman*,

Stocking Large Ponds with Fish.

Massachusetts now claims the control of all ponds within her borders, above the area of forty acres. Until quite recently all ponds larger than ten acres were considered public property. Where the State is liberal it is an advantage to have the control of large ponds vested in the State. It is much easier for a company who wish to make improvements to get a lease from the State than from a d

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Saturday, Aug. 13, 1870.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER,

$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within three months of the date of Subscription.

☞ *These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.* ☜

All payments made by subscribers to the FARMER will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us *the name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

MR. S. L. SMALL will visit Nova Scotia during the month of August and September.

MR. J. P. NUTT is now in Washington County.

MR. V. DARLING is now canvassing in Oxford county.

Farmer Office Removed.

The Office of the MAINE FARMER has been removed to Smith's Block, on Water street, opposite Granite Hall Building.

A Good Example Badly Followed.

Jeff Davis recently made a speech—in the course of which he said, that in view of the past, no one could blame him for his determination to let those who had power decide how the country should be governed. Since the close of the war, Davis has, we think, acted the part of a man of good sense. He has been very quiet, avoiding publicity, and has finally betaken himself so a useful occupation as president of an insurance company at Memphis. General Lee, too, has not thought it beneath him to accept the presidency of a college as a means of support. In short, nearly all of the rebel leaders have conducted themselves quite as well as could reasonably be expected. To be sure, they have not been loud in their expressions of attachment to the Union; but even this is to their credit; for any such professions could but be regarded by the public as insincere. The most that ought to be expected of men in their position is a quiet submission—an acquiescence to the verdict of the sword.

Yet there seems to be a class of irreconcilables in some parts of the South who are bent on keeping up stealthily the contest that ended in the open field five years ago. These men are banded together to defy the law, to intimidate their political enemies, to crush freedom of speech and opinion as thoroughly ar it was before 1860. Everybody who goes from the North or who advocates the reconciliation of the Southern people with the national government and with the North, is proscribed by them. If a prominent man, if, for instance, a candidate for Congress, he finds his life in constant danger. It is useless to deny this. We are constantly receiving the most positive evidence that such a state things exists in several localities. The numerous political murders in Texas, Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina cannot be disproved.

The latest developments of the lawless spirit is in North Carolina. For several months there has existed in Alamance and Caswell counties a reign of terror. Governor Holden says in a letter to Chief Justice Pearson of North Carolina, that in those two counties, "during the last twelve months not less than one hundred persons have been taken from their homes and scourged, mainly if not entirely on account of their political opinions, that eight murders have been committed, including that of a State Senator, on the same account; that another State Senator has been compelled, for fear of his life, to make his escape to a distant State." These atrocities the Governor says are committed by members of a secret society, and the county, authorities instead of bringing the offenders to justice, have actually shielded them from arrest. In consequence of this state of affairs, the militia has been called out, and the writ of *habeas corpus* suspended. We know that these lawless proceedings are denied; that it is even said that there has not been an instance of resistance to law anywhere. But it is utterly incredible that Governor Holden should have invented the whole affair. He had everything to lose by calling the military to his aid, and very little could he expect to gain. Even when the necessity is most unavoidable, the employment of an armed force will certainly alienate voters from the party that employs it. The action of the President in giving him the aid of the United States troops, is a further evidence that there was serious disorder. As to the duty of the executive to use the military in extreme cases, there can be no doubt. The only question is one of fact; whether the necessity exists. The known facts speak strongly in support of the action of the government.

THE SWEDISH COLONY. We learn from the Presque Isle *Sunrise* that within six days after the arrival of the Swedish Colony in Aroostook, a few of the emigrants had hand-piled, burned and cleared two acres of land and sowed it with English turnips. The larger portion of the colony have been steadily at work building houses and felling trees. The immigrants are exceedingly well pleased with their new homes, are very industrious, at work early and late, and promise all and more than was ever expected of them.

The advantages of this settlement have attracted the attention of Swedes in the West, and Mr. Thomas has received letters of inquiry from seven of these people in Illinois. The replies are reported to be satisfactory and it is anticipated that the colony will receive the accession of these individuals, to be followed by others of the same nationality now in the West. A newly arrived Swede saw a notice of the settlement in a paper at Bangor, and after informing himself of the condition of things at once joined the colony. Mr. Thomas, the Commissioner, brought with him from Europe a library of about 200 Swedish books with which he will form the foundation of a free public library. Contributions of English books will be thankfully received. They should be directed to W. W. Thomas, Jr., New Sweden, Caribou Post Office.

WAR IN EARNEST. The intelligence from the seat of war is sufficiently exciting. In a hard fought battle the French have suffered defeat. Instead of carrying the war into Germany, as everybody supposed they would do, they have fallen back before the victorious Germans, and are now, even the Emperor himself, in his dispatches, discussing the question of defending Paris. In Paris itself, the greatest consternation exists. It has been declared in a state of seige. Public assemblages are forbidden. It now seems probable that the war will be fought out on French soil. The battle of the 5th and 6th inst., was fought at Woerth and Niederbron, some ten miles over the border. At several points further west, the Prussians are still further advanced into French territory.

☞ *Hors du combat* is a French phrase, and means, word for word, "out of the combat;" or, more concisely, "disabled." Yet one of our exchanges tells a story of a collision between two teams in which he says one of the horses was put "*hors du combat*;" yet winds up with the remark that *neither of the horses was injured*. It is a dangerous thing to talk or write French without knowing its meaning; and it is a waste of ink to write "hors du combat," when one means "disabled." The veteran poet and editor, Wm. Cullen Bryant, once said to a young writer who sent him an effusion abounding in quotations and phrases in foreign tongues, that in the course of a long life devoted to literature he had always found the English language amply sufficient to express his ideas.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The annual examination of the classes of the Maine State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, as we learn from the Bangor *Whig*, was held at Orono on Wednesday last. The exercises were quite interesting, and the young men acquitted themselves well, reflecting great credit on their instructors. At the close, remarks were made by Gov. Chamberlain, Rev. Messrs. Allen, Reed and Baker. The prize declamation of the Sophomore Class was held in the Methodist church on Tuesday evening. The speaking was very good, and the singing was excellent. The first prize was awarded to Benjamin F. Gould of Waterville; the second to Oren S. Sargent of Mile.

TRIBUTE TO COL. BUEL. The following General Order issued by Maj. Gen. Pope, commanding the department of the Missouri, headquarters Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and dated July 25th, 1870, will show the high estimation in which the lamented Col. Buel was held by those who are familiar with his distinguished record as a soldier and his excellent character as a man:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, July 25th, 1870.
General Orders No. 28.

The Commanding General of the Department announces, with deep regret the death of Bvt. Lieut. Colonel D. H. Buel, Captain of Ordnance, by cruel assassination at the hands of a deserter from the Ordnance Detachment stationed at Leavenworth Arsenal, on the night of the 22d instant.

Col Buel entered the service from the Military Academy on the 24th day of June, 1861, as Brevet 2d Lieutenant 1st Dragoons. Promoted to 2d Lieutenant same regiment same day.

He was transferred to the 3d Regiment of Artillery October 23, 1861, and to the Ordnance Department October 24, 1861; was promoted 1st Lieutenant Ordnance Department March 3, 1863; Captain Ordnance Department July 80, 1868.

He rendered distinguished services in the field during the late war. Was engaged in the Manassas campaign of 1861; took part in the battle of Rescces, May 15, 1864; battle of Dallas, May 25-28, 1864; battles of Kenesaw Mountain, June 20 and July 2, 1864; battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864; siege of Atlanta, from July 22 to September 2, 1864; battle of Jonesboro', August 31 and September 1, 1864. Was present at the surrender of Atlanta, September 2, 1864. Captured by the enemy and held as a prisoner of War from September 7th to 28th, 1864. Engaged in the pursuit of Hood's army from October 4th to November 1st, 1864. Took part in the march to the sea from Atlanta to Savannah, November 16 to December 13, 1864. Present at the surrender of Savannah, December 21, 1864. Also engaged in the battle of Bentonville, March 20-21, 1865, and occupation of Goldsboro', March 24, 1865.

He occupied the position of Chief of Ordnance of the Department and Army of the Tennessee from January 30, 1864, to June, 1865. He was brevetted Major in the U. S. Army July 22, 1864, for gallant and meritorious services in action in front of Atlanta, Georgia, and brevetted Lieut. Colonel U. S. A., March 13, 1865, for meritorious and distinguished service in the campaign from Atlanta, Ga., to Goldsboro', N. C.

Colonel Buel was an officer of great distinction, a gentleman of high culture and of most upright and honorable character, and a man of the purest life and the tenderest affections.

In his death the army suffers a great loss, and he will be long and deeply lamented by all who knew him.

His afflicted family can always rely on the earnest sympathy of all who have ever served with him and and knew his high qualities as a soldier and a man.

The officers serving at Department Headquarters, and at the Post of Fort Leavenworth, will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days after the date of this order.

By command of Brevet Major General POPE:

W. G. MITCHELL,
Brevet Colonel U. S. A.
Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:
W. M. DUNN, JR., *Captain U. S. A., A. D. C.*

SUPREME COURT. The August term of the Supreme Court commenced on Tuesday, 2d inst. and closed on Wednesday, 10th, after a session of nine days. The following are names of the jury retained for the trial of criminal cases: Ebenezer Abbot, Winslow; Hiram S. Abbott, Belgrade; Frank B. Chandler, Waterville; Albert Cressy, Mt. Vernon; E. C. Douglas, West Gardiner; George Hamblin, Winthrop; Jerry Hodgdon, Farmingdale; Stephen Y. Johnson, Pittston; Stillman Libby, Gardiner; Benjamin R. Libby, Albion; John D. Lord, Hallowell; William Martin, Benton; Nathan P. Martin, Rome; George W. Plimpton, Litchfield; George A. Robbins, Vassalboro'; and Charles K. Sawtelle, Waterville.

The grand jury came in on Thursday and returned twenty indictments. They were then discharged from further attendance. The towns of Winthrop, Readfield, Pittston and Windsor are each indicted for defective roads. There are six indictments under the liquor law against common sellers, and three for keeping drinking nuisances. Of the remaining indictments one is for malicious mischief, one for assault in the office, one for attempts to set fire to a building, one for larceny, one for a libel and one for a felonious assault.

THE NATHAN MURDER. The coroner's investigation of the recent murder of Mr. Nathan in New York city, developes some new facts but throws no light upon the perpetrators of the terrible tragedy. The two carpenters who were at work in the house on the day before the murder, seem completely absolved from suspicion. They fully explain their whereabouts, verify their statements clearly, and pass unscathed through a very searching investigation.

It is shown that the house could have been easily entered by an assassin during the day without being observed. The iron "dog" with which the murder is supposed to have been committed does not appear to have been seen about the house till after the murder. It was Frederick Nathan, not Washington, upon whose clothes stains of blood were found. A suggestive fact, now for the first time stated, is that the bloody footprints which formed so distinct a tract down stairs and across the marble floor of the hall to the front door—all led one way. There were no footsteps tending up stairs or elsewhere than towards the door. On the whole the mystery appears to be as dark as ever.

☞ Baker & Weeks, United States Claim Agents of this city, furnish us with the following information, which is interesting to persons receiving pensions. viz: Congress has made a law whereby every pensioner is now to receive his pension on or after the 4th of March, June, September and December in each year, and it is the duty of the Paymaster or Pension Agent to pay each pensioner without charge—*the pay for making the usual vouchers is to be paid by the government*—and the Paymaster or Pension Agent, or other person is strictly forbidden receiving by fee or compensation, for making vouchers to draw upon. They request persons who have left their pension certificates with them to obtain them, if sent for by letter, send postage. They procure and establish pensions for those who are entitled and have never received any pension, and do all classes of claim business.

☞ Religious worship will be held in the Winthrop street church on Sunday morning next. Rev. Mr. Moor expects to return home from his vacation in season to conduct the services, or if unable to do so, some other clergyman will supply the pulpit in his stead.

Services were resumed in the Unitarian church last Sunday, the pastor, Rev. Mr. Cram having returned from his summer vacation.

We learn that Rev. Dr. Bingham, pastor of the South Parish Congregational Church, has tendered the resignation of his charge, to take effect at the termination of the present parochial year. Dr. Bingham finds his parish labors too exacting for his strength, we understand, and, proposes, at the close of his present engagement, to devote himself to other professional duties more in accordance with his tastes and desires.

BASE BALL MATTERS. The Dirigo Base Ball Club of this city will visit Boston and vicinity this month to compete for the championship of New England with some of the crack junior organizations of Massachusetts. They will play with the Bay States of Lynn, Unas of Charlestown, Lincolns of West Newton and Excelsiors of Boston—all first class clubs. The last named are the champions of Massachusetts, and one of the clubs defeated by the Dirigos on a former visit. They leave Augusta on the 22d inst., and will be absent a week or ten days.

Arrangements are making for a grand Base Ball Tournament, to be held in Belfast during the coming autumn. It is expected that all the leading clubs in the State will participate in the combat.

☞ Samuel Cannon, Esq., of Farmingdale, formerly clerk in the Adjutant General's office, has been appointed clerk in the office of the Assessor of Internal Revenue in this city. He succeeds Mr. L. B. Hill, who has been transferred to a clerkship in the Augusta Post-office.

☞ Messrs. H. & C. Smith's Threshing and Sawing Machines are now on exhibition in Bangor. Wherever these machines are exhibited, they collect crowds of visitors.

☞ The Maine Temperance *Advocate*, heretofore published in Bath, has been united with the Riverside *Echo*, the well established temperance paper in Portland.

☞ The annual Show and Fair of the Kennebec Agricultural Society will be held at Readfield, on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 5th and 6th.

COLBY UNIVERSITY. On Tuesday evening the oration before the Literary Society was delivered by Hon. Thomas Russell of Boston. His subject was "The Scholar's Place in the World,"—and the main idea running through it that the scholar is only the custodian of his learning, and is bound to use it for the good of his race. The oration was a sensible, manly production, and was greatly enjoyed by the large audience present.

On Wednesday the exercises of the graduating class took place, the members of which were as follows: Charles H. Cumston, North Monmouth; Edward P. Roberts, Waterboro'; George L. Farnum, Rumford; Frederic H. Eveleth, Durham; Alfred E. Meigs, So. China; Erastus M. Shaw, Rockland. The Trustees voted to raise $50,000, of which $25,000 are for the laboratory and cabinet; $20,000 additional to the permanent fund, and $5,000 to remodel the old chapel into recitation rooms. Hon. Gardner Colby subscribed $10,000; Hon. J. Warren Merrill, $10,000; Hon. Wm. Wording, $10,000; Hon. Abner Coburn, $10,000; President Champlin, $1000; Dr. Geo. A. Pierce, $1000; other alumni and friends, $8000. Voted twenty-five per cent. addition to the salaries of the faculty.

Besides the degree of A. B. upon each member of the graduating class, the degree of A. M. in course, was conferred upon Dr. G. A. Pierce of the class of '64, T. F. Batchelder of '48, J. C. Fales of '58, D. I. Record of '52. The following honorary degrees were conferred: the degree of A. M., upon J. A. Chaplin, Boston; L. S. Burbank, Lowell, and Rev. Mr. Powers of Houlton. The degree of LL. D. on Ephraim Hunt of Boston; that of D. D., on Prof. E. C. Mitchell of Shurtleff College, Ill., and Rev. H. V. Dexter of Kennebunk. The members of the Board of Trustees selected this year are, Hon. Wm. E. Wording, Washington, D. C., Hon. Alex. Campbell and Rev. Dr. O. S. Stearns of Newton.

In the evening, the graduating class were favored with a full house at their concert, immediately after which the President held a reception at his house, which was the closing exercises of Commencement at Colby.

COINCIDENCE OF DATES AND EVENTS. In 1807, France was at war with Prussia. In 1870, which embraces the same figures reversed, there are again hostilities between them. In 1756 there was also war between the same powers, in which France sustained a terrible defeat. Just fifty years after that event, 1806, Prussia was humiliated, yea, more than that, almost destroyed, by the disastrous double battle of Jena and Auerstadt. In commenting upon that event the English historian, Allison, says: "Such were the disastrous battles of Jena and Auerstadt, which prostrated the strength of the Prussian monarchy, and in one day effected that which all the might of Russia, Austria and France had been unable to effect in the seven years' war, from 1756 to 1763." Curiously enough, sixty years from that time, in 1866, Prussia was raised to the height of power by the extraordinary result of Sadowa.

In 1805, the Russian power received a crushing defeat in the great battle of Austerlitz, in which three Emperors were present, viz: the Emperors of France, Russia and Austria. The forces of the two latter were united, but four fifths of those who participated in the struggle at Austerlitz were Russian. A half century passed away, and in 1855, the French and the Russians were contending for supremacy at Sebastapol, under Emperors of the same names as those who met in 1805.

In 1809 the French were at war with the Austrians, and entered Vienna in triumph. In 1859, at the end of a half-centennial period, the same countries were engaged in a deadly contest, with even larger numbers in Northern Italy. In 1799 the first Napoleon had seized, as First Consul, the supreme authority in France. In 1849, fifty years after, the third Napoleon had just been elected President of the same country.

RIOT AT AN EXECUTION. The beauties of hanging were illustrated on Friday, 29th ult., at Shelbyville, Ill., by a serious riot which took place at the execution of Joseph Myers for the murder of Piebisco Calhoun two years ago, which is thus described. Hubbard Holden, who was to have been hanged with Myers for the same crime, had his sentence commuted, Thursday, by Governor Palmer, which created great indignation, as it was asserted that Holden planned the murder and did the shooting. It was feared Thursday night that the people would attack the jail and release Myers unless Governor Palmer surrendered Holden to the gallows. Friday morning the mob demanded that both men be hung, or that Myers be released. Governor Palmer was vehemently denounced on every hand. The jail was guarded by one hundred armed men. While the preparations were being made to hang Myers, several attempts were made to tear down the fence enclosing the scaffold, but the assailants were repulsed, and Myers was executed, and ten minutes after the mob charged the fence in force, and commenced tearing it down, but when they discovered it was too late to save Myers they dispersed, swearing eternal enmity to Governor Palmer, and but for conciliatory speeches by several of the leading citizens bloodshed would have resulted.

TAX PAYERS OF MOUNT VERNON. The following list of individuals and firms in Mount Vernon, who pay over forty dollars tax for 1870, has been handed us for publication:

Calvin Hopkins,	$119 90	Abram Smith,	$52 88
A F & C N Creasy,	106 23	Andrew Brown,	51 79
John Bean,	99 80	Aaron S Lyford,	52 67
Daniel H Thing,	98 41	James Carson,	52 40
Franklin Thing,	91 38	Misha C Carson,	52 23
James R Marston,	91 38	James Robinson,	52 27
Benjamin C Robinson,	90 97	Eben M. Brown,	51 95
Daniel M. Stevens,	82 42	Dura Weston,	51 11
Lewis H Blake,	82 02	Albert Creasy,	51 04
John G. Dunn,	81 58	Peter Folsom,	50 04
Lyman R Mace,	81 06	Benjamin Philbrick,	49 79
John Walton,	78 42	Joseph Currier,	49 07
S & E Kendall,	74 79	Stephen Ladd,	48 74
Benjamin D Dudley,	72 67	George S Worcester,	48 59
Benjamin F Brown,	71 91	Jos M Robinson,	48 39
Jarius Dolloff,	70 55	Benjamin F. Butler,	47 19
Nathaniel T Robinson,	67 48	Wm B Virgin,	46 81
Abner Cottle,	66 80	John B Rain,	45 72
John Dolloff Jr.,	63 94	James G Davis,	45 30
David Dolloff,	63 20	Edgecomb & Foss,	45 29
Benjamin S Philbrick,	61 59	Aivah Holden,	44 76
Randolph Taggart,	61 18	Gilbert Taggart,	44 37
Henry B Robinson,	60 23	James C. Howland,	44 30
A & W M Brainard,	60 11	Jeremy Towle,	44 24
Cyrus Roberts,	58 86	Capt. David French,	43 54
Orner Cottle,	58 43	Moses B Mayhew,	43 51
P & W P Dunn,	57 60	Allen F. Williams,	43 07
James A Robinson,	57 53	David Rundlett,	42 53
David M Bent,	56 47	Samuel Stain Jr.,	42 43
James H Dolloff,	54 36	Oliver Stevens,	42 07
Chas. Rundlett,	54 28	Randall Currier,	41 97
Alfred Weston,	54 06	Rufus F Fletcher,	41 15
Wm. H. Carr,	53 31	Samuel Q. Bean,	40 91
Homer S Bean,	53 14	Jessie Jacobs,	40 88

FIRE IN ETNA. The barn of Mr. Joseph Rundlett in Etna, was burned last Sunday night, together with twenty-five tons of hay, one pair of oxen, three cows, a new buggy, porter wagon, and nearly all the farming tools. The house escaped by breaking his halter, though not before being considerably injured. Loss $1200; insured for only $100. The origin of the fire is not known. Mr. Rundlett is very careful to guard against such accidents, and there had been no fire about the building during the season.

☞ The *Omaha Tribune* is the name of a new daily paper published in Omaha, Nebraska, by the Tribune Printing Co., of which Jos. B. Hall, Esq., formerly of Portland, is President and Manager. The *Tribune* comes to us handsomely printed and well filled with news and miscellaneous reading, evidently the work of talented and experienced journalists. It is a live newspaper, and is bound to make its mark in the community in which it circulates.

☞ The yacht race for the Queen's Cup in New York harbor on Monday last, resulted in a victory to the American Yacht Magic, which reached the home stake boat in 3 hours, 33 minutes, 54 seconds. The English Yacht Cambria held the eighth place, coming in in 4 hours 57 seconds.

☞ A correspondent writes us that there continues to be a great rush of summer visitors to Mt. Desert, some three hundred arriving weekly at Bar Harbor, and the public houses, fourteen or fifteen in number, are rapidly filling up.

☞ The Springfield, Mass., *Republican*, in commenting upon the use of jute "switches," and chignons, which contain minute insects, says that in that city "several women lie in danger of death from these loathsome insects, and the disease in its lesser forms is quite frequent."

☞ The public debt statement for July shows a decrease for the month of $17,045,128 74. Decrease since March, 1870, $69,004,001 27. Decrease since March, 1869, $156,138,784 01. Average monthly decrease since March, 1869, $9,228,487 88.

Editor's Table.

FREE RUSSIA. By Wm. Hepworth Dixon, Author of "Free America," "Her Majesty's Tower," &c. New York: Harper & Bros. 1870. pp. 359.

The author traveled through the length and breadth of Russia in Europe, saw a great deal of the common life of the Russians, and collected a great many facts and anecdotes which he has set down in illustration. His statements are made with an appearance of candor, and are probably as reliable as the hurried and superficial character of his observations permitted. A commendable feature is the absence of persistent detailing of the writer's personal doings, which makes up so much of most books of travel. The style is epigrammatic to affectation. The whole book is disjointed, and evidently hastily written. Yet it is decidedly interesting, and full of instructive facts. The traveller lingered long on the polar sea, where he tells us, can Slavonians be found who have not been influenced by the Western civilization. A great part of the book relates to the religious life of this intensely devout people. The chapters illustrating their social and political status, give us glimpses of a singular combination of communism, democracy and despotism.

THE ROB ROY ON THE JORDAN: a Canoe Cruise in Palestine, and Egypt, and the waters of Damascus. By J. Macgregor, M. A. With Maps and Illustrations. New York: Harper and Bros. 1870. pp. 474.

The interest of this volume centres in the canoe and its solitary navigator. In a little boat fourteen feet long and weighing 72 pounds, the adventurous Macgregor sails the Nile, the Jordan and the Abana; seeing many wild sights unknown to other travellers, coming in contact with savage natures and savage men, sleeping where chance overtook him, in his canoe drawn up on the shore, never discouraged by difficulties, never without resources. This is Macgregor's third voyage in a Rob Roy canoe, besides another in a Rob Roy yawl. He preserves many plans and sketches of his route, and records faithfully his minutest experiences. Altogether it is very entertaining. The book is well gotten up, and bountifully illustrated with maps, diagrams and landscapes.

LIFE, LETTERS, LECTURES AND ADDRESSES OF FREDERICK W. ROBERTSON, M. D., Incumbent of Trinity Chapel, &c. New York; Harper & Bros. 1870. pp. 840.

The present is the fifth edition. The first was issued in 1865. The first half of the volume consists of chapters of biography, to each of which is attached a collection of letters corresponding in date. The remainder consists of lectures and addresses on biblical and social topics. A clergyman of the church of England, yet rejecting many of its cherished beliefs, an intense and earnest worker, of decided convictions, keenly sensitive to adverse criticism, yet never hesitating to avow his opinions, Robertson lived a life of usefulness and influence, but marred by frequent fits of gloom and despondency. He at the same time mistrusted his own powers, and failed to appreciate the difference intellectually between himself and the mass of persons who made up his audiences. The rare powers of reasoning and address that drew large audiences to hear him preach, creates a large circle of readers for his published works. The biography would be more satisfactory to us if it set forth his *opinions* with greater clearness.

THE WRITINGS OF ANNE ISABELLA THACKERAY. New York: Harper & Bros. 1870. 8 vo. pp. 425.

The bulk of this volume is taken up with stories, the principal of which are "The Village on the Cliff," "From an Island," "The Story of Elizabeth," and five others under the collective title of "Five Old Friends." Eight short sketches occupy the last forty pages of the book.

Among the letters are eight to the Countess of Blessington, three to Washington Irving, and a number to Douglas Jerrold. There are also a few poems and a sketch of his readings.

KILMENY. By Wm. Black, author of "In Silk Attire," &c. 50 cts.

JOHN: A Love Story. By Mrs. Oliphant. 50 cts.

The above 341 and 342 of Harper's Library of Select Novels have been received.

All the above works published by Harper & Bros., come to us through Bailey & Noyes, Booksellers, Portland.

OLD AND NEW. The August number contains "Pink and White Tyranny," by Mrs. Stowe; a popular article on the "Northern Pacific Railroad," by Geo. M. Steele; a continuation of the German Romance, "She Writes;" "American Political Literature," by E. A. Pollard; an article by Orville Dewey on the "Validity of our Knowledge of God," in which he combats with much ability the opinion that our knowledge is confined to material existence; and several other attractive papers. The literary critic commends "Lothair," Keble's Poems and some other works, and gives an unfavorable opinion of "Gregory's Sermons on London Poor."

PUTNAM'S MAGAZINE contains its usual array of instructive and entertaining matter. There is a continuation of "Love on Figi," by T. M. Coarr; "Music in nature," by Prof. Schele de Vere; "The Constitutional Crisis in England," by Goldwin Smith; "Can an Inebriate conquer Himself?" by F. H. Morton, and a dozen other articles.

J. F. Pierce has it. $4 per year.

HOURS AT HOME has a strong corps of writers and gives us this month an excellent number. Georgians M. Craik continues her story of "Hero." J. G. Holland contributes a poem. Schele de Vere writes some nonsense about the condition of American Literature, and the causes thereof. Burt G. Wilder tries to popularize the anatomy of "Fingers and Toes." D. G. Mitchell writes about Dickens. There are in all twenty articles.

For sale by J. F. Pierce. $3 a year.

We have also received through the same parties the "LADY'S FRIEND," published by Deacon and Peterson, Philadelphia. $2 50 per year.

SUNDAY MAGAZINE, $3 50 per year.

GOOD WORDS, $2.75 per year.

GOOD WORDS FOR THE YOUNG, $2.50 per year.

These three reprints by Lippincott & Co., are abundantly illustrated, and the contents appear to be excellent. The first, as its name indicates, is designed to furnish good Sunday reading. A decided religious spirit pervades the other two.

THE LITTLE CORPORAL. Sewall & Miller, Chicago. $1 per year. This magazine for boys and girls is in its eleventh volume.

TERRIFIC THUNDER SHOWER. On Friday last a succession of terrific thunder showers passed over Bangor and vicinity doing considerable damage to property, but injuring no person. In the town of Hudson a barn was struck by lightning and totally destroyed with its contents. In Palmyra a house was struck and the fluid passed down through into the cellar, badly damaging the house and furniture.

Three houses were struck in Bangor, with but little damage. In one house the children had become frightened and left their room to sleep with their parents, when the fluid entered the vacated apartment and demolished everything in it. In another house a lady was stunned, but soon recovered. For two hours in the evening the lightning was almost incessant and the thunderbolts passed into the ground in many places without striking buildings. A very large amount of rain fell during the day and evening.

THE NORTH CAROLINA TROUBLE. The Washington correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* says that additional troops have been sent to North Carolina, and at present Governor Holden has ten companies of regulars at his disposal, eight of them being of artillery, and two of infantry all armed with Springfield breech-loading rifles. Before any troops were ordered to the State, Governor Holden came quietly to Washington, and in a long conference with the President and Secretary of War fully explained the situation as he viewed it. Both of these officers regarded it as essential that troops should be immediately despatched to prevent outbreaks, if possible, by the moral effect of their presence, or in case of actual trouble, to be at hand to respond to requests for aid from the civil authorities. All reports are to the effect that the officers of these troops warmly approve the course of Governor Holden, and will go as far in rendering aid as they possibly can in accordance with the law.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES. The County Teachers' Institutes for the month of Aug., will be held as follows: Sagadahoc, at Brunswick, Aug. 22; Oxford, at South Paris, Aug. 15; Franklin, at Farmington, Aug. 29. These Institutes will be in charge of Superintendent Johnson, assisted by Prof. Allen.

For the Maine Farmer.

MIDSUMMER NOON.

The robin pipes a sad refrain
Upon its orchard rest;
Calling her mate to come again
And share its dainty nest.

In Cloudland, many a phantom ship
Sails o'er the azure sea;
The mellow sunshine loves to slip,
With shade, across the lea.

The cattle by the brookside stand,
The shady elm-tree under,
Content to view the pleasant land,
Nor seek for further plunder.

The lambkins on the distant hill,
With merry gambols play,
The water by the silent mill,
Slow gurgles on its way.

The waving fields in billowy bounds
Before the breeze is bending;
With pleasing, rustling, rippling sounds,
Such music in their blending.

Calm, lovely scene of sweetest peace,
With birds in all the bowers,
From pain and toil a blest relief,
Midsummeris sunny hours.

J. W. L.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 5, 1870.

Messrs. Editors:—The recent appointment of Mr. J. H. Saville to the Chief Clerkship of the Treasury Department, has been followed by several important changes and improvements, among the number being an entire reorganization of the Secretary's Office. The arrangements now adopted will tend to greatly simplify and facilitate the transaction of public business, as the fourteen divisions which have previously existed are now consolidated into nine, and in something like that proportion, have shortened the routes over which many official papers have hitherto been transported.

Applicants for positions in the Treasury Department will hereafter be examined by the Chief of the Bureau to which they aspire to be assigned by Mr. B. Elliot of the Secretary's Office, and Mr. Saville, Chief Clerk of the Department. Persons who obtain the privilege of going before this board of officers for examination, will be likely to discover that the grade of qualifications which permits an appointment in this department, are something above those Mr. Horace Greeley thinks sufficient to secure an entrance. It is at least a debatable question whether Mr. Greeley might not find some difficulty in passing the bad hat and memorable white coat by this board, since any rents in the one, or deficiencies of crown or brim in the other, would unavoidably bring the venerable journalist to a dead halt. The examinations hereafter will probably be very close and rigorous, and candidates will do well to be fully prepared to meet them at all points.

Unexpended balances of appropriations covered into the Treasury by the appropriation bills of the last Congress, standing to the credit of the Engineer's Department, and the National Cemeteries, though all required for the completion of works partially finished and provided for by law, are still unavailable until they shall have again been appropriated by Congress for the above-named purposes. It also appears that no provision was made to meet the payment of the "one year's pay and allowances," which the army bill contemplates for supernumerary officers who may resign. The latter item proposes rather complicated questions for the War Department to pass upon, and suggests admirable topics for presentation before "special" or "investigating" committees of Congress, that have hitherto been considered highly proficient in explaining perplexing difficulties. A happy release from this tangled tape is ardently desired for all the unfortunates that are likely to be ensnared by it.

The "status of Georgia" has become one the standard mysteries and irrepressible questions of modern times. No amount of Congressional enactments seem sufficient to meet the wants of this distinguished commonwealth, whose citizens are in the grandest possible turmoil and commotion to find their escape from the muddle into which their interpretation of United States laws have plunged them. The latest advices from the State go to show that there is as much diversity of opinion among the citizens of Georgia to *know where they are*, as there was in Congress to *know how and where to put them*, at the time the distinguished members succeeded in enacting a law that neither themselves nor any one else seems capable of understanding or explaining. If the utter disintegration of the State should follow those masterly attempts to *fix it*, there would scarcely be room for wonder or surprise, since the item of cohesion among public men, when the "status of Georgia" is to be discussed, seems to be one of the forces considered entirely unnecessary in the manipulations of its public affairs. It may perhaps not be considered impious or improper to desire the decent burial of this stale question, for the strange legislation upon this topic has probably already cost the government a sum equal to the total valuation of the entire State.

Frequent appeals have been lately made to the charitable public for means to protect and improve the property at Mount Vernon, which seem to have met with comparatively small response from the urgency with which the requests are still continued. The income of the Mt. Vernon association is almost wholly derived from the profits of the steamboat which runs between Washington and Mt. Vernon, and from casual contributions by those who are patriotically inclined, the receipts from both sources being necessarily quite limited. A pressing need exists at this place for means to protect the property from loss by fire. At present it is very much exposed to this danger; and a calamity of this kind, it is hardly necessary to observe, would be altogether irreparable. If the people of America are requested to contribute millions to perform something of an astounding nature, the response is made to such an extent that the recipients are overwhelmed with kindness. But the neglected mansion which stands upon the banks of the Potomac river—ones the home of George Washington—is ever speaking to the public in a mild but perpetual rebuke, and as a constant reminder and proof that it is much easier to be ostentatiously generous than simply just.

Another prominent source of comments, unfavorable to the American people, is provided by the unfinished Washington monument at Washington. This likewise has been made the object of direct and earnest appeals for aid, but also stands, in its incomplete and uninviting proportions, as an evidence that republics can be forgetful as well as ungrateful. It would seem vastly more to the credit of Congress to provide the necessary means for completing the Washington monument and protecting the property of Mt. Vernon, than to make the annual appropriations for meeting the excessive and unjust demands upon the Treasury for objects that much too easily could be particularized.

A somewhat remarkable publication is receiving the comments of the press in this vicinity, whose title is as follows: "The memories of fifty years: containing brief biographical notices of distinguished Americans, and anecdotes of remarkable men, interspersed with scenes and incidents occurring during a long observation, chiefly spent in the southwest. By W. H. Sparks."

This volume is written by a gentleman said to be in his seventieth year, of evident culture as well as experience, but whose views are those derived altogether from a southern eminence; so that the mind is measurably prepared to expect a restatement of extreme old school doctrines, intensified from their being repeated by an ardent politician and southern man. This preface would naturally lead the mind to expect eulogies for southern men, and harsh criticisms upon those from the North, but it poorly prepares the feeling to endure the misrepresentations and malignity that are everywhere apparent when allusions are made to matters of northern origin. The language indulged in by Mr. Sparks, if correctly reported, would suggest the conclusion that the second edition of John Randolph, of Roanoke, had reached the earth, or that the olden worthy of that name was permitted to employ a portion of his time in sending messages to the present period through this new and Spark-ling medium. It will not be the fault of such authors as that now under notice, if all our recent unhappy memories fail to become undying. The flames of passion and prejudice are fanned by this production to that extent that the mind almost involuntarily turns Sumterward, with an inward shudder lest the signs of a new conflagration there shall call for a repetition of all the sorrows and trials of the memorable past. M.

Mr. Simon Lowell, an aged and respected citizen of Harrison, was found dead in the road near his residence, on Sunday morning last. His death was caused by disease of the heart.

Items of Maine News.

From the town of Mexico comes the tale of a horrible death. A young man named Grece, was on top of a stack of oats, having a small, well-seasoned cherry pole, sharpened at both ends, which was intended to be run down in the centre of the stack, to prevent the top from being blown off by the wind. Accidentally he let this fall, and one end stuck in the ground. In some manner, the young man slid off the stack upon the pole, which entered his groin, and passed upward through his bowels and chest, coming out at the top of his shoulder, from which it protruded more than a foot.

The *Argus* says that as the train from Boston, was coming into the depot at Portland, Wednesday evening, a girl named Burns, about eight years of age, who was returning from a blueberrying excursion, jumped from the train while it was moving, and when she struck fell back directly across the rail, and directly between the front and rear car. Mr. James Osgood, a hack driver, who was standing by, jumped forward and at great risk of his life, seized the child and extracted her just in time to avoid the rear wheel.

The Bangor *Whig* understands that two ladies in Orono are seriously ill from the effects of vermin in jute switches, which they have been in the habit of wearing. The insects have penetrated the scalp in innumerable places, and fatal results are feared.

On Thursday last, by a large and unanimous vote, the city of Belfast decided to raise 5 per cent. of its valuation in aid of the construction of the Moosehead Lake Railroad. This requires the completion of the enterprise in time to meet the lease to the Maine Central Railroad.

On Wednesday last, about fifty acres of woodland near York village, owned by Richard A. Walker, were burned over in about two hours. Two hundred men were upon the spot

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Foreign News.

The War in Europe.

A Great Battle on French Territory—The French Defeated.

CARLSRUH, Aug. 4, 6 30 P. M. [Cable despatch to the N. Y. *Herald*.] There was hard fighting at Weisenburg yesterday.

To-day a large force of Prussians advanced between Weisenburg and Luttenbourg, ten miles into French territory, driving the advance post of the enemy, and destroying a mile of Railroad between Luttenbourg and Strasbourg, along which McMahon was preparing to advance. The French loss was heavy, including many prisoners.

The special correspondent of the *Tribune* telegraphs from the Prussian headquarters that the Crown Prince's army has stormed Weisenbourg. The troops of the 5th and 11th Prussian army corps, reinforced by the 2d Bavarian corps, engaged Gen. Douay's division of Marshal McMahon's corps. The French were driven off the field and the Prussians occupy the French camp. Several hundred French soldiers were taken prisoners.

The correspondent of the *Tribune* writes from Coblentz on Tuesday that the Prussians are in much greater force on the banks of the Saar and Moselle than is generally supposed. Hence they do not intend to fall back on Mayence or Manheim but will hold the French in check from Sierck to Lauterberg. One proof is that the long trains of provision wagons stretch from here to Treves and the ambulance trains with them are in much too great force for a mere affair of outposts. Moreover the large square here of Clemens Platz is covered with peasant's wagons laden with bread and biscuit, all moving west.

Treves is now the headquarters of the 6th army corps. The Prussian wagons and ambulance service is more perfectly organized, and their horses are in better condition than those of the French. The soldiers are in admirable spirits.

Coblentz is full of landwehr. There are a few troops of the line there. The fortifications are rapidly being strengthened and trees are being felled in readiness for an attack. All the commanding points about the great fortress the occupation of which would render it indefensible against modern artillery, are now strongly fortified and earthworks are rapidly being constructed toward the French.

A special correspondent at Cologne writes Tuesday: Troops were passing steadily through that city and going northward, all in excellent condition, each corps with provisions for six weeks. No enthusiasm surpasses that of the South Germany regiments, many of which have petitioned to form part of the advance guard.

Preparation for a Forward Movement.

The following is a cable despatch to the *Herald*:

STRASBOURG, Aug. 4. Yesterday, after the Council of War, Marshal McMahon, with the Chief of Staff, Gen. Coulson, surveyed the Rhine from Kehelridge upwards. They visited Brumulti, twenty miles north of here, where a cavalry division, and part of the first division of infantry are encamped. From these movements it is conjectured that McMahon, with the African army is about to cross the Rhine at and dash, rapidly by the way of Carlsruhe and Keidlebourg, to Frankfort, to cut the railroad communicating between Berlin and the Rhine.

It is believed that he will leave Mayence on the left, while the main army pushes on through the lower Rhine provinces to Mayence and Coblentz. The forward movement, it is rumored, is fixed for Saturday. It is reported that the Prussians are gathering in force in the south, and that the Baden force is in the Black Forest.

Official Account of the Saarbruck Battle.

BERLIN, Aug. 4. The Prussian Government furnishes the following account of the affair at Saarbruck. The feeble garrison held Saarbruck until the French deployed and advanced in three columns. The Prussians then retired to a position north of the town to observe the enemy. In spite of the free use by the French of the mitrailleurs artillery and chassepots our losses are only two officers and seventy men. The loss of the French appeared to be more serious. Our troops were admirably cool.

At Saarbruck.

[*Tribune* special.] The special correspondent at Saarbruck writes on Tuesday morning: Our guns are being brought up opposite the French, and I will reply if the French open fire.

The same correspondent writing Monday night, says: I thought at the end of my last letter that my contribution from Saarbruck was finished, and had set out for the railway station, when a communication received from one of the best informed men in the place, made me determine to stay, and to-day the monotony of Saarbruck was broken. Two thousand men with sixteen guns have come within a mile of the town, and two whole regiments are lying within the neighborhood.

The first and third battalions and the 40th Hohenzollern fusileers made their appearance on the Saar Louis road at the top of a hill two miles out of Saarbruck, about 5 o'clock, and with them came sixteen guns and long line of wagons. They did not come into town but turned into a large field high upon the hill, where they will bivouac to-night. There was great joy at the news of their approach, and people went up to the field to receive them with provisions and presents of cigars, &c. "Gott Seilib" came from the mouth of the patriot at my side, as the first of the cannon appeared. When I wrote my first letter, there were hardly more than 500 men in Saarbruck, and had the French made a forward move, even with a small part of their force about Forbach, we could have made no resistance to them whatever. But from some source or other our force was curiously exaggerated.

The Prussian Victory at Weissenburg.

BERLIN, Aug. 5.—The following dispatch has been received from Neidervatterbach, a small village on the Otter river near Weissenburg, dated 6 o'clock Thursday evening: "We have won a brilliant but bloody victory. The left wing was the attacking party, and consisted of the 5th and 11th Prussian corps, with the 21 Bavarian. This force carried by assault under the eyes of the Prince Royal the fortress of Weissenburg and the heights between Weissenburg and Gersburg. Gen. Douay's division of Marshal McMahon's corps were splendidly defeated, being driven from its camp and Gen. Douay himself was killed, and 500 prisoners were taken, none of them wounded. There were many Turcos among the captured. The Prussian Gen. Kirchbach was slightly wounded. The Royal grenadiers of the 50th regiment of the line suffered heavy losses."

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The victory of the Prussian Crown Prince in capturing Weissenburg and Gershill was brilliant but bloody. The French were repulsed and dispersed, leaving behind them Gen. Douay, who was killed, and 500 prisoners, including many Turcos. The Prussians captured one cannon. The Prussian headquarters are at Treves. The French corps moved last night on Saar-Louis, where a battle is expected. There is a rumor of the capture of the town of Unionfield. It is said that a cavalry skirmish occurred yesterday near Santerburg, in which 25 French defeated 150 Prussians.

FRANKFORT, Aug. 5, noon.—A train has just arrived bringing 500 French prisoners from Weissenburg. They will be sent to northern Prussia. The total number of prisoners taken by the Prussians in the fight was eight hundred, including eighteen officers.

BERLIN, Aug. 5.—A dense crowd assembled to-day in front of the Royal Palace, to whom the King's dispatch announcing the victory at Weissenburg was read by order of the Queen, causing great enthusiasm.

The buildings are generally covered with flags and the illumination to-night will be great.

NEW YORK, Aug. 6.—The following is a special to the Herald:

Berlin, Aug. 5.—The city is generally excited to-night and much indignation manifested at the repulse of the French troops at Weissenburg. An attack was made by a crown upon the office of a Prussian stock broker. The police are parading the city in great force. Immense crowds of people are collected in the public places and are singing the Marseillaise. Fourteen million francs in gold were seized yesterday at the railway station.

French Account of Weissenburg.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—At 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, three regiments of Gen. Douay's division and a brigade of light cavalry were attacked at Weissenburg by a very considerable force of the enemy, which had been massed in the woods skirting the Lauter river. Our troops resisted for several hours the attacks of the enemy and then retired to the summit of Pigeonwier, the eminence of which commands the line of the railroad to Bitche. Gen. Douay was killed. One piece of artillery, the horses having been killed and the carriage broken, fell into the hands of the Prussians. Marshal McMahon is concentrating the forces under his command at this point.

More Fighting.

PARIS, Aug. 5.—Evening.—The *La Liberte*, in an extra issued this evening, says that it has received information that heavy fighting has been going on since morning at several points along the frontier.

The *Journal du Soir* has reason to believe that the Prussian plan of attack is concentrated at Mayence, Coblentz, Darmstadt and Manheim, and will march at once into France through London. This the *Journal* thinks explains the assault at Weissenburg.

Le Pays prints the following official, dated to-day: "Marshal McMahon has occupied with his army a strong position near the place of yesterday's conflict. He is in telegraphic communication with all the corps of the army. The piece of artillery taken by the enemy yesterday was an ordinary cannon."

The Extent of the French Defeat.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5—The following is a special dispatch to the Herald:

LONDON, Aug. 5.—A special dispatch from Hagenau of to-day's date says:—The defeat of the French at Weissenburg was disasterous. Gen. Douay's division, composed of picked fighting men, was entirely routed and several of them have reached here in a demoralized condition. Weissenburg is in possession of the Prussians. A general advance here and at Saar Louis is expected. It is expected that Russia has no designs on the Danubian Principalities.

Great Enthusiasm in North Germany.

BERLIN, Aug. 6.—Intense enthusiasm prevails throughout North Germany. In the large cities of the confederation, crowds assemble in the streets to hear the war news, and make demonstrations of loyalty.

Great Battle at Hagenau—The French Army Defeated.

LONDON, Aug. 6—9:30 P. M.—The following dispatch has just been received here:

Wurtemburg via Berlin, Aug. 6. The Prince Royal has defeated Marshal McMahon.

Berlin, Aug. 7, via London, 10:30 P. M.—The Prince Royal telegraphs the following bulletin from the field of battle:

"A victorious battle has been fought near Woerth. McMahon was totally beaten by the larger portion of my command. The French retired upon Bitche.

[Signed] FREDERICK WILLIAM
Prince Royal.

Field of battle near Woerth, 4:30 P. M."

MAYENCE, Aug. 6—9 P. M.—Heads of the Prussian columns approached the Saar on the 5th inst. This morning Gen. Ramers found the enemy to the west of Saarbrucken in a strong position in the mountains near Spicheren, and commenced immediately to attack them. Following the sound of the cannon, portions of the divisions of Barnckow and Stuperaged came up. General Graben took command, and after a severe fight the position occupied by Gen. Frossard was taken by assault. Gen. Francais was killed, and Gen. Renter was wounded. The night alone put an end to the fighting.

CARLSRUHE, Aug. 6—10 p. m.—A forward movement of the right of the Prussian army from Treves and Saar Louis commenced yesterday. The Prussians captured Sierck and vigorously attacked Thionville, in overwhelming numbers. After some resistance, the French threw away their arms and took to flight.

At the same time yesterday, the army commanded by the Crown Prince moved in the direction of Bitche, the advance of the French force making but slight resistance.

To-day there was a general advance of the whole German line. The King has joined the army. Upwards of 2000 French prisoners have been forwarded to Frankfort.

The position of the main body of the French army is at present unknown. The French force are supposed to be concentrated at Metz. McMahon's is supposed to have fallen back from Bitche and Hagenau towards Metz and Nancy. There are reports that the Emperor Napoleon is ill.

The Prussian troops are moving on Metz.

Berlin, Aug. 7. King William sends the following dispatch to the Queen:

"Good news! A great victory has been won by our Fritz! God be praised for his mercy! We captured 4000 prisoners, thirty guns, two standards and six mitrailleurs. McMahon, during the fight, was heavily reinforced from the main army. The contest was very severe and lasted from 11 o'clock in the morning until 9 at night, when the French retreated, leaving the field to us. Our losses were heavy."

Berlin, 6th—via London, 1:30 p. m.—The French Emperor has withdrawn his entire line and is concentrating his troops for the defense of Paris. His losses have been enormous. The Prussians overtook the retreating French forces early on Saturday morning west of Saarbruck. Gen. Kamer commenced the attack supported by Gen. Baruckow and Steimpangel, but Gen. Gaeben ultimately assumed the command. The action was severe. The position at which the French endeavored to make a stand during their retreat, was carried by the Prussians at the point of the bayonet. The battle is known as that of Hagenau. It is reported that hurshal McMahon was wounded.

Mayence, 7th—Prince Frederick is at Blieskatel and Gen. Steinmetz between Salzebach and Saarbruck. The general headquarters of the armies is stationed at Kaiserautern.

Dispatches from the French Emperor and his Marshals.

Paris, 7.—The *Journal Official* in its second edition of to-day publishes the following proclamation:

"Frenchmen:—Up to this hour, we have always given without reserve, all certain news which we have received. To do so we give the following dispatches:—

"Metz, 6th—Midnight—Marshal McMahon has lost the battle. Gen. Frossard on the Saar has been obliged to retire. His retreat was effected in good order: All can be re established.

(signed) NAPOLEON."

"Metz. 7—3:30 a.m.—My communications have been interrupted with Marshal McMahon. I am going to place myself in the centre of the position.

(signed) NAPOLEON."

Metz. 7th—4:30 a. m.—Major General of the army to the Minister of the Interior:

"After a series of engagements, in which the enemy brought heavy forces into the field, Marshal McMahon was forced to fall back from his first line. The corps of Gen. Frossard had to fight yesterday from two o'clock in the afternoon with the entire army of the enemy. Having held his position until six o'clock, he was ordered to retreat, which was made in good order.

(signed) LEBOEUF."

A Proclamation.

"The details of our losses are wanting. The situation is not compromised, but the enemy is on our territory and a serious effort is necessary. A battle appears imminent. In presence of this grave news, our duty is plain. It appeals to the patriotism of all. The Chambers have been convened. We are placing Paris with all possible haste in a state of defence, in order to facilitate the execution of military preparations. *We declare the Capital to be in a state of seige.* There must be no faint-heartedness; no derisions. Our resources are immense. Let us pursue the struggle without flinching, and the country will be saved.

"Paris, Aug 7, 1870, 10 p. m.

"By order of the Empress Regent.

(signed) "M. Ollivier, Minister of Justice; "Duke De Grammont, Minister of Foreign Affairs; "M. Cneraudin De Voidrome, Minister of the Interior;

"M. Sigris, Minister of Finances;

"Gen. Vicompte De Jeau, Minister of War and Interior."

The French Retreat Towards the Interior

BERLIN, Aug. 7. The following official despatches have been received here:

MAYENCE, Aug. 6.—6:10 P. M. The French turned back on their entire line, and commenced to advance from Saarbruck, which they held, but having to fall back they burned that rich and unprotected town.

SAARBRUCK, Aug. 6—P. M. The town of Saarbruck has just been retaken by the first Prussian army corps, under command of Gen. Steinwitz. The loss was heavy on both sides.

Further Particulars of the Battle.

A despatch from the Emperor dated 3:30 A. M. on Sunday says that the communication with McMahon having been severed, nothing was received from him till last evening, and General Leigle announced that McMahon's loss was great in the battle, but that his retirement was effected in good order. On the left the action began at about one o'clock in the morning, but was not serious until several masses of the enemy had concentrated, before which the second corps momentarily held its ground. Between six and seven o'clock in the evening, the masses of the enemy became more compact and the 21 Corps retired on the heights.

An Appeal to Frenchmen.

PARIS, Aug. 7. The despatch has been received:

"General Headquarters, Metz, }
Aug. 7—8 30 A. M. }

That we may hold our position here, it is necessary that Paris and France should consent to great efforts of patriotism. Here we lose neither our coolness nor confidence but the trial is hard. McMahon, after the battle of Kierchsheffen, retired, at the same time covering the road to Nancy. The corps of Gen. Frossard, which suffered severely, is taking energetic measures for defense. The Major General is in the front.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF METZ. Aug. 7—11 A. M. The concentration of troops continues without an obstacle. All hostilities seem to have ceased.

6:20 A. M. During fighting yesterday, Prussians fired upon ambulances at Forbach and set fire to the town. The 3 corps of General Admirault and Freilly were not in the fight.

METZ, Aug. 7—8 A. M. The morale of our troops is excellent this morning.

It is impossible to give exact figures of the losses.

General Coffiniores is organising defensive measures.

There are three corps still here, able to give the enemy much trouble in his forward movement.

BERLIN, Aug. 7. The *Herald* correspondent on the Baltic coast was arrested at Pielau, as a spy. Minister Bancroft is laboring to procure his release.

PARIS, Aug. 7. The Empress has issued the following proclamation:

Frenchmen,—The opening of the war has not been favorable to us. We have suffered a check. Let us be firm under the reverse, and let us hasten to repair it. Let there be but one party in the land, and that of France;—a single flag—that of national honor.

I come among you faithful to my mission and duty. You will see me first in danger to defend the flag of France. I adjure all good citizens to maintain order; to agitate would be to compromise with our enemies.

Done at the Tuileries, the 7th day of August, 1870, at 11 A. M.

(Signed.) EUGENIE,
Empress Regent.

PARIS, Aug. 7. The Journal Official says the defence of Paris is assured. It would require half a million of men to invest its fortifications, while 30,000 would suffice to defend it. There are troops enough in and around the city to furnish necessary garrison there, with sailors from the fleet, which could be procured. The national guard, municipal and firemen would make up a solid army of 100,000 men. Paris is free from danger.

LONDON, Aug. 7. McMahon's corps is cut off at Metz. The prisoners taken by Crown Prince and Gen. Gseben number 8000. Number killed and wounded unknown.

The French Legislature Summoned.

PARIS, Aug. 7th via London. The Senate and Corps Legislative have been summoned to meet on Thursday, 11th inst.

Trouble Anticipated at Paris.

LONDON, Aug. 7. Serious apprehensions of a disturbance are entertained at Paris. The strictest surveillance is exercised over telegrams sent from there. The Empress presided at the meeting of the Council of Ministers yesterday. The guard is under arms, and street gatherings are prohibited.

PARIS, Aug. 7. The Presse of to-day says that at the Bourse, yesterday, several persons were arrested. At three o'clock shouts of "a bas la bourse" were uttered by parties exasperated at the dissemination of false news, whereupon an order was given to close the Bourse. The crowd became furious, and tore up the railing of the enclosure. A force was brought to bear and the building was evacuated amid applause from the crowd on the place outside. A judicial investigation is now going on.

The Situation Summed Up.

LONDON, Aug. 7. From the official news received here the situation may be summed up, as follows:

The Crown Prince has driven Marshal McMahon's army from Weissenbourg, Lauterberg and Woerth, and probably compelled the evacuation of Hagenau and Strasbourg.

The victory of General Gaeben at Saarbruck and the advance from Hombourg has driven General Frossard's corps from Forbach and St. Avolt and probably rendered Bitche untenable. McMahon's corps is at present out off at Metz. The prisoners taken by the Crown Prince and General Gaeben number 8000.

The number of killed and wounded is unknown. Immense quantities of army stores have been captured. There are rumors, which lack official confirmation, of the evacuation of Thionville, the capture of Sierck and Hagenau, and the advance of the Prussians across the Rhine from South Baden. We know, however, that large Prussian armies are gathered at Saar-Louis and in the Southern part of Baden.

The Battle of Weissenburg.

LONDON, Aug. 8,—The *Tribune's* special correspondent writes from Mayence on Thursday, giving the details of the battle at Weissenburg, from the Prussian point of view, as follows:

This evening there came a dispatch from Weissenburg announcing a Prussian victory and the occupation of Weissenburg. I have seen the official dispatches and obtained the following additional details: The King on his arrival at Mayence called a council of war and urged that the sooner the existing invasion closed the better, and urged an advance. His opinion was adopted and orders telegraphed to attack the French outposts in the neighborhood of Landau and Weissenburg. The Prussian force, composed of two line regiments, one regiment of Bavarian troops and some artillery, altogether about 9000 strong, drove the French before them into Weissenburg. The artillery was then brought up and opened on the fortifications of the town. The town soon caught fire, and seeing this and some confusion among the French troops, the Prussians could no longer be restrained by their officers, who were anxious to reduce the town by a cannonade. The soldiers rushed forward with the bayonet and surprised the French, who, not expecting an infantry attack for hours to come, were barricading and intrenching. The Prussians lost heavily but took 800 prisoners and the town. The greatest enthusiasm prevails here, and there is an immense crowd about the place waiting to cheer the King.

The French Account.

Another correspondent writes from Mayence, Thursday learning that none but official telegrams would be permitted to be published for the next three days, our special correspondent sends from Nancy Friday morning the following account of the battle at Weissenburg from the French side: Gen. Douay's division, composed of the 74th and 50th regiments of the line, the 16th battalion chasseurs on foot, one regiment of Turcos and one regiment of mounted chasseurs, were busy yesterday in the neighborhood of Weissenburg, when they were actually startled by the tremendous discharge of artillery, as the patrols who had been posted all along the frontier, had not signalled the presence of the Prussian troops. The men believed for a moment they were surrounded by the enemy. This was not the case, but the Prussians in great force and well supplied with artillery appeared on the heights of Schmeergen and occupying the whole country and a small Bavarian village by that name.

Gen. Douay ordered his troops to advance before the enemy, keeping as much as possible behind Weissenburg, which lay just between them and the Prussians. But this precaution proved quite useless, because the guns were pouring a tremendous fire upon them and the troops were falling in great numbers in the village of Weissenburg itself. The French retired from their former position and commenced marching on the right side of the village, the Prussian guns firing at a tremendous rate and their rounds fell equally in Weissenburg and in the midst of the troops. Several houses were on fire and a large number of soldiers lay dead and wounded. About 11 o'clock Gen. Vondon's division commenced retiring. However a new attack was ordered: The Turcos led the way and bayonet in hand threw themselves on one of the Prussian batteries of artillery. All proved useless. Had the French insisted in attacking the enemy any longer there would not have been one of them left alive on the ground. As soon as Gen. Douay's forces commenced retiring the Prussian artillery was after them. It was about 12 o'clock when Gen. Douay fell back, a victim to the Prussians. Troops commenced running without order, crossing roads and vineyards, till again reaching the farthest part of Weissenburg. The number of dead and wounded must be very large indeed.

Great Alarm in Paris.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8. The following is special to the *Tribune*:

LONDON, Aug. 8. The news from Paris hourly grows more serious. None but official accounts can come by telegraph. It is from letters and Paris journals that all intelligence must be gathered. The declaration of the state of seige does not repress popular demonstrations, and it is very doubtful whether the Government has force to keep order or put down any considerable demonstrations. Republicans believe that their hour approaches, and Paris at this moment is likely to rise against Prussia. One of our correspondents writes on Sunday evening that the rage, fury and disappointment of the population at finding there had been a series of defeats on the French soil instead of the easy military promenade which they expected is beyond description. We already feel in a state of seige.

PARIS, Aug. 8 The ministers have issued the following proclamation:

Frenchmen:—We have told the whole truth. It is for you now to do your duty. Let one shout come from all; from one end of France to the other. Let the people vie with each other in sustaining the great cause. Some of our regiments have fallen before overwhelming numbers. The army has not been defeated. To the fortunate audacity of the movement let us oppose tenacity. Let the inhabitants of all parts of France, not subjected to the burden of war, rush to the assistance of their brothers in the East. Let France be united. Heaven bless our arms.

War Facts and Rumors.

LONDON, Aug. 8. The *Journal Official* says that the relations of France with the other powers is satisfactory, and the late events have developed rather than weakened this feeling. It is said privately that the Emperor is ill at Chalons, and that Drs. Nelaton and Ricord have gone to attend him.

The condition of Paris is believed to be dangerous. The Emperor is in council with Rouher and Schneider.

The latest information from the seat of war confirms every particular of the Prussian victory. The Prussians to-day occupy St. Avolt, where McMahon's headquarters were located Saturday.

Marshal McMahon's corps is in full retreat towards Nancy. It is thought in millitary circles that he is endeavoring to form a junction with the French forces at Metz.

General Frossard is falling back from Saar river with McMahon towards Nancy. His corps in the late engagemen s suffered heavy loss in both officers and men.

Metz has been hurriedly placed in a state of defence, and every male person in the place has been pressed into service. General Bafficere is in command of the fortifications at Metz, and it is believed that should McMahon effect a junction with the forces at present there, that the victorious march of the Prussian army through France may be checked. In the event of McMahon's being cut off from Metz, there is not the slightest doubt but that General Bafficere will be compelled to evacuate Metz and fall back towards Paris.

Napoleon has left Metz and established his headquarters at Chalons sur Main, about half way between Metz and Paris.

The whole of the Prussian reserves commenced moving yesterday and are rapidly coming up with the Prussian advance.

The whole of the Prussian army is under command of the Crown Prince Frederick William, and is advancing rapidly into the very heart of France on a bee line for Paris.

The Investiture of Strasburg and the Advance of the Prussian Right.

LONDON, Aug. 9.—[*Herald* Special.] A dispatch from Carlsruhe to-day states that Strasburg was surrounded by an army of 60,000 Prussian troops, mostly from South Germany. The city must surrender, as the garrison is composed of only 7000 men.

The advance of the Prussian right from Saar-Louis and Treves has commenced. It is supposed that Prince Frederick Charles is in command.

LONDON, Aug. 9.—A rumor has reached here that the Prussians are in Mulhausen, 61 miles south-west of Strasburg.

The Losses of Saturday.

The losses of the French in the battle of Woerth on Saturday were 5000 dead, wounded and missing, and 6000 prisoners. McMahon's baggage, many cannon and two long railroad trains with stores and ammunition were captured. The Prussian cavalry in their pursuit bagged thousands of stragglers who had thrown away their arms. The Prussian loss was 3500 dead and wounded.

The Imbecility of the Emperor.

LONDON, Aug 8.—The *Times* ascribes the French disaster to the obstinacy of the Emperor to receive sound millitary advice, and to his illness. It says the parties will make the Emperor pay the penalty for his ill-success. His name is already ignored in the acts by which the regency seeks to rally the people. Things arrange themselves as if he was not expected to resume his power, as if testing how he may be dispensed with altogether. The only question is who shall first utter the word abdication.

Edmund About writes from the field, bitterly condemning the Emperor's mismanagement. He says having declared war he lets the Prussians begin it. It is true that neither party was ready, yet the French lost twenty days in useless marching and countermarching. They were surprised at Weissenburg by the enemy, with whom there were no videttes to watch, no skirmishers to meet and no settled plan to repel.

Popular Demonstrations in Paris.

LONDON, Aug. 9. Letters from Paris say that the citizens, defiant of martial law, continue to assemble in the streets and discuss the war.

PARIS, Aug. 9. La Liberte publishes the following account of the scenes about the hall of the Corps Legislatif: At 1 o'clock groups formed before the hall, which grew greater every moment, and soon there were more than 10,000 persons assembled. The people were calm and unmoved. There were however shouts from time to time of "A bas la Prusse," and "Vive France."—Deputy Ferry, who appeared, was received with shouts and commenced an address as follows: "Friends, be calm." At that moment Marshal Baraguay d' Hilliers arrived, and officers of the National Guard and others surrounded him. There were loud cries of "Vive Changarnier" and "Vive France." The crowd was increasing all the while and shouts were heard of "Vive Rochefort," from the electors of Belleville, who had come to the scene to make a demonstration in his favor. At 2 o'clock troops of the line were ranged around the hall, as also a squadron of cavalry, and were received by the crowd with, "To the frontier," "To the frontier." Circulation was stopped on the bridge leading to the hall and a commissary of police made a legal summons to the people to disperse, and the cavalry broke into a trot along the streets.

The Prussians Concentrating at Metz.

METZ, Aug. 9, 8.30 A. M.—The enemy is in a large measure concentrating in front of Metz. Marshal Bazaine has the direction of operations. The corps of Gen. Frossard has retired in good order on Metz. All has been quiet during the night. The Emperor has just gone to the headquarters of Marshal Bazaine.

The Tribune's Dispatches.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—The following is a special to the *Tribune*:

LONDON, Aug. 9.—Our special correspondent, writing from the Prussian headquarters at Mayence on Saturday morning, says:—News of the Prussian victory over McMahon has just been made known. The fight was very bloody and was a great loss on the Prussian side as well as the French. The Bavarian troops behaved magnificently, and many Turcos were taken. Bismarck, before leaving Berlin, was asked whether, if successful, Germany ought not to insist on Napoleon's abdication, he replied, "No; Germany can only fight for German objects and not for French."

La Liberte reports that the Empress says the last news from headquarters is reassuring. Immediate danger is passed, and all the dispositions made are good. We would give more news, adds the *La Liberte*, but that we might inform the enemy. Figaro asserts that twenty-one divisions of French infantry and six cavalry have not yet been engaged, making 228,000 men all together.

There is always day and night, large assemblies about the Ministry of Interior, waiting for news, and there are considerable groups about all places where papers are sold, who are reading news aloud, and commenting on it. The reason why I missed finding out last night why the Cafes were shut on the Boulevards at 11 o'clock, was that crowds of people clamoring for arms, had been charged by the curiassiers and sergeants de ville, and a great many arrested.

Further dispatches from our correspondent may respecting the engagement at Weissenbourg: That the two regiments that suffered the most severely in attacking the town behind the hill with bayonets were the King's Own Grenadiers and the 5th Fusiliers, one recruited in Dantzic and the other in Liginz. They are good troops, of Gen. Von Steinmetz's command.

A BARBAROUS WARFARE. Capt. W. O. Ryan, an American officer in command of a portion of the Cuban insurrectionary forces, writes from Camp Pajones, Cuba, to Gen. Jordan, as follows:

"Gen Cavada gave me orders to burn every house and large ranche in Calaguey and I faithfully fulfilled his orders, so that to-day there is not one house in this State. The majority of the people were very much opposed to this step and sent petition after petition to the Government asking that the houses be not burned, but before the Government had time to act I had every house burned. Houses, ranches, cane fields and meadows were burned, and for miles around you could see nothing but flames. The enemy were going to camp at Calyaston, but the day before they arrived I burned the place.—I think the burning of houses and cane fields will prevent the enemy from operating much in this State."

Of the fight at Principe, Col. Ryan says that he killed a hundred men and captured some. He states that the attack was a complete surprise and as his two buglers kept up the charge, the enemy supposed that he had a large force. He killed all the prisoners but one boy, who states that there were 150 cavalry, some soldiers of the line and 300 mobilizidors. The little fellow was sent to the Governor of Puerto Principe with a letter and the scalp of the Major. Ryn's loss was two wounded.

Special Notices.

Sinking Slowly,

Diseases that progress rapidly to a crisis are not the only ones to be dreaded. Canker or dry rot does not blast a tree as suddenly as a stroke of lightning, but unless arrested, it destroys it as certainly; and like manner chronic debility, although it does not kill with the swiftness of yellow fever, is as sure to sap the springs of life eventually as any acute disease, if not checked by invigorating medication. There is something inexpressibly touching in the spectacle of premature decay. Languor, pallor emaciation, depression of spirits, and a distaste for exertion, are its ordinary symptoms, and they should be promptly met by tonic treatment. The best invigorant and exhilarant that can be administered in a case of this kind is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. The stimulating principle of the preparation rouses the dormant energies of the system, and the strengthening and regulating properties give a permanent and healthful impulse to the vital forces thus brought into play. The failing appetite is re-awakened, the process of digestion and assimilation are quickened, the quality of the blood is improved, the secretions become more natural, and every organ that contributes to the nourishment of the body undergoes a salutary change. By these means the pair of the physical structure is effected and its health and vigor restored. In no class of diseases has the benificent operation of the Bitters been more marked and striking than in those characterized by general debility and nervous prostration. Ladies afflicted with these ailments find in this most wholesome of all tonics and correctives the safest and surest means of relief. It is strong to restore and powerless to injure. Such is the uniform testimony of "crowds of witnesses." 1m35

KENNEBEC COUNTY AGR'L SOCIETY,

This Society will hold their ANNUAL SHOW and FAIR at the Society's grounds at Readfield Corner, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Oct. 5th and 6th, 1870. Examination by the Committee, except on Speed and Matched Horses, at 9 o'clock A. M., of the first day. Drawing of Ozen at 2 P. M.

Second Day—Address at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Hon. Emery O. Bean, of Readfield. Report of Committees immediately after. Trial of Speed and Matched Horses, at 2 P. M.

No pains will be spared by the Society to make this Show the best ever held by them.

The Semi-annual meeting of the Society will be holden in the Fair Building the first MONDAY in September. It is earnestly hoped that all will attend and assist in the preparation for the coming Exhibition. Per order of Trustees.

36 GEO. A. RUSSELL, Sec'y.

Many Suffer rather than take nauseous medicine; and this is not to be wondered at, as the remedy is often worse than the disease. Sufferers from coughs, colds, influenza, sore throat, or tendency to Consumption, will find in *Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry* a remedy as agreeable to the palate as effectual in removing disease.

Married.

In Windsor, Aug. 5th; By Rev. J. I. Brown, Col. Robert G. Blake of Waterford to Miss Mary A. Tibbetts of Windsor.

In Nobleboro', Aug. 6 by the same, at the residence of the bride's father, Gardiner T. Hall, Esq., Mr Rockwood Puffer of Boston to Miss Elizabeth A. Hall of N.

In Whitefield, Aug 7, by the same, Mr. Joseph A. Knight to Miss Mary R. Dockendorff, both of East Pittston.

In Belgrade, Aug. 7, by Geo. R. Minot Esq., Mr. Henry H. Abbott to Miss Jane Cummings, both of Belgrade.

In Union, July 23d, by Rev. J. N Marsh, Mr. Harrison F. Lucas of Union to Miss Amanda R. Sukforth of Washington Maine.

In Gorham, July 7th Mr. Jonathan Hanson, of Windham, to Miss Julia A. Atkins of Westbrook.

In Gardiner, July 23d, Mr. Wm. E. Brann of Farmingdale to Miss Estella Dill of Gardiner.

In Gardiner, 1st inst., Mr. Horace H. Tibbetts, of Gardiner, to Miss Emma C. Kilgore, of Lewiston.

In Chelsea, 3d inst., by Elder J. A. Kennedy, Charles W. Jackson, Police Sergeant at the National Military Asylum, to Miss Sarah E. Martin of Chelsea.

Died.

In this city, 8th inst., Mrs. Elizabeth Wiggin, aged 72 late of Newton, Mass.

In Charlestown, Mass., July 31st, Morrill C, only son of Lewis S and Almyra Hunton, aged 20 years and 6 months, formerly of Readfield.

In Bowdoinham, July 31st, Georgie E. daughter of George F. and Ainia M. Sampson aged 5 years 4 mos 10 days.

In Bangor Aug. 5th Mrs. Mary L. Mills, wife of Mark L. Mills, aged 47 years and 3 months.

In Hallowell, 4th inst., Sophronia A., wife of Mr. Gilbert Whitman, aged 41 years.

In Springfield, July 31st, Mrs. Amanda M. Drake, wife of Lloyd W. Drake, Esq., Aged 45 years.

In Gardiner 30th ult. John S. Rogers, aged 23 years; Mrs. Emma Paul, aged 23 years; 24 inst., Michael Castello, aged 64.

In Sidney, 1st inst., Louisa, wife of the late John H. Flynt, of Gardiner, aged 58 years.

In Hallowell 26th ult., Andrew Leonard, aged 78 years; 31st ult., Mrs., wife of Samuel Dunn, aged 57 years and 6 months.

In Madison, 4th inst., Wm. Atkinson, formerly of Bangor, aged 73 years.

NOTICE TO BUILDERS.

SEALED PROPOSALS for erect ing the stalls, sheds and pens upon the grounds of the Augusta Driving Park in the city of Augusta, for the accommodation of the approaching State Fair, will be received by the undersigned, a Committee of the Trustees, duly authorised for that purpose, on or before August 22d, 1870, when said proposals will be opened, the contract being awarded to the lowest bidder. Specifications can be examined at the office of Peter F. Sanborn, in Augusta, on Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 17th and 18th.

Proposals will also be received at the same date, for supplying the Fair Grounds with water during the days of the Fair; a plan of the manner of furnishing the same, can also be examined at the time and placed above named.

WARREN PERCIVAL.
Augusta, Aug. 9th. 1870. 1w36

BRIDGTON ACADEMY.

FALL TERM will commence TUESDAY, Sept. 6, and continue eleven weeks.

WILLIS H MEADS, A. M., Principal.
BILAS BULLARD, Assistant.
Miss L. R GIBBS, Drawing and Painting.
Miss HELEN A. DIMOCK, French and Music.

Text Books furnished by the Principal at Portland prices. Board in the vicinity at reasonable rates.

THOMAS H. MEAD, Secty.
North Bridgton, Aug. 6, 1870. 3w36

FOR SALE.

A TWO STORY HOUSE AND STABLE. House contains sixteen rooms—desirable for a Boarding House or a private family. For further particulars, inquire on the premises of ROBERT DOYLE,
3w36 No. 5, Water Street, Augusta, Me.

WHITMAN'S THRESHING MACHINES.

There well known and highly popular Machines, manufactured by LUTHER WHITMAN of Winthrop, Me., have been improved during the past year to that extent that I can boldly and safely challenge competition. During the many years that I have manufactured these Machines, it has been my study to supply the Thresher with a Cleaner that would properly clean grain of all kinds, as fast as the Machine was capable of Threshing.

THIS I HAVE NOW ACCOMPLISHED.

The Greatest Improvement ever made in Threshing Machines.

This machine will Thresh and Separate the grain more thoroughly from the straw, and clean much faster, better, with less waste and power of any Threshing Machine in New England.

During the past year I have manufactured these Machines for the Southern and Western markets for *Two, Four, Six, Eight and Ten Horses*, and although competing with the Machines of larger and noted manufacturers, the farmers have invariably given this new machine the preference.

Agriculture, Implements and Shop Machinery of all descriptions; also manufacture the

PORTABLE CIDER MILL,

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Poetry.

THE CHILDREN.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And the school-for the day is dismissed,
And the little ones gather around me,
To bid me good night and be kissed:
Oh, the little white arms that encircle
My neck in a tender embrace!
Oh, the smiles that are balces of heaven,
Shedding sunshine of love on my face!

And when they are gone I sit dreaming
Of my childhood too lovely to last;
Of love that my heart will remember
When it wakes to the pains of the past.
Home-world and its wickedness made me
A partner of sorrow and sin;
When the glory of God was about me,
And the glory of gladness within.

Oh, my heart grows weak as a woman's,
And the fountains of feeling will flow,
When I think of the paths steep and stony,
Where the feet of the dear ones must go;
Of the mountains of sin hanging o'er them,
Of the tempest of Fate blowing wild;
Oh! there is nothing on earth half so holy
As the innocent heart of a child.

They are idols of hearts and of households;
They are angels of God in disguise;
His sunlight still sleeps in their tresses,
His glory still gleams in their eyes;
Oh! those truants from home and from heaven,
They have made me more manly and mild,
And I know how Jesus could liken
The Kingdom of God to a child.

I ask not a life for the dear ones
All radiant, as others have done,
But that life may have just enough shadow
To temper the glare of the sun.
I would pray God to guard them from evil,
But my prayer would bound back to myself;
Ah! a seraph may pray for a sinner,
But a sinner must pray for himself.

The twig is so easily bended,
I have banished the rule and the rod;
I have taught them the goodness of knowledge,
They have taught me the goodness of God.
My heart is a dungeon of darkness,
Where I shut them from breaking a rule;
My frown is sufficient correction;
My love is the law of the school.

I shall leave the old house in the autumn,
To traverse its threshold no more:
Ah! how shall I sigh for the dear ones,
That meet me each morn at the door;
I shall miss the "good nights" and the kisses,
And the gush of their innocent glee,
The group on the green, and the flowers
That are brought every morning to me.

I shall miss them at morn and at eve,
Their song in the school and the street:
I shall miss the low hum of their voices,
And the tramp of their delicate feet.
When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And Death says: "The school is dismissed!"
May the little ones gather around me,
To bid me good night and be kissed!

Our Story-Teller.

THE MYSTERIOUS TESTAMENT.

BY HARRY HAMILSTEAD.

It was night, and an ugly night. The rain poured in torrents; the wind howled through the streets in fitful blasts, and ever and anon showers of half frozen hailstones pattered unmercifully down, rattling warningly upon the exposed window panes, and accelerating the hurried steps of the unfortunate pedestrian. A dark, sombre night, occasionally illuminated by the dazzling rays of the jagged lightning, whilst the ominous rumbling of the distant thunder portended increasing fury to the storm. 'Twas a fearful night, such a night when the lonely patrolman seeks the protecting shelter of the arched doorway; the minister hastens reluctantly upon his errand of mercy; the physician grumblingly responds to the calls of his alarm bell, and men and beasts, in fright, desert the streets and shun the by-ways. Such a night, when virtue remains secure close in-doors, and crime and vice stalk forth in grim defiance of nature's laws and nature's fury.

All rest by my office grate, my slippered feet elevated, with more ease than dignity, upon the mantel, listening to the raging storm, and offering a thought of sympathy and pity to any belated wanderers, as I let the blue smoke from of one of "Barnard's Brand" curl in lazy rings towards the ceiling; half dozing, half waking, attending listlessly to the splashing of the rain without, I was suddenly startled, and sprang to my feet fully roused, by a peremptory summons to the door, in the form of a furious tattoo upon its panels. Muttering an anathema upon the unseemly disturbers of my cozitations, but with some regard for the welfare of my premises, I hastened to relieve the door from the tumult of the being who thus threatened every instant to drive it from its hinges, and bid the boisterous applicant enter.

"Be you a lawyer?" said the visitor, dragging slowly his wet presence across the room, and finally, coolly possessing himself of my easy chair.

I followed despondingly the two puddles of water that were rapidly forming at either foot, and then diverging in tiny rivulets over my newly covered floor; then my gaze wandered from the dripping garments to the person who sat so self-sufficiently drying himself before my fire. He was a stout, broad-shouldered man, of perhaps nine and thirty, of rather prepossessing face, surmounted with long reddish rair, and a shaggy sandy beard and whiskers, long, unkempt, and now bedraggled with the rain and hail, and ilily concealing a deep scar which, in a singular white line, ran tranverely over his left cheek, from the outer corner of the eye to the lip. He was dressed in the costume of an ordinary laborer, and I noticed, with surprise, that his hands were as delicate and well formed as a woman's.

"Be you a lawyer?" he again asked, with the peculiar intonation that betrayed his Southern origin.

"I am," I replied; did you desire to see me?"

"Wal, you's see," he answered, "we'es are rather afeared that the lady might die, sudden like, and as she's got a lot of niggers and properly, she wanie to fix her will, an' so they's sent me arter you'e."

"But this is extraordinary, and such a night as this," I demurred. "Could not it be postponed until to-morrow?"

"No," he answered, "we's leave the morrow, an' want to end this afore we go. I will give you's one hundred dollars for getting your coat wet, or more, if you's don't reckon that's enuf, but the will must be drawn to-night."

Now I was a young man, of not on over superfluous practice, and to let an opportunity of making a one hundred dollar fee slip by was out of the question. The night was growing fearfully worse, but I would almost have ventured across the Styx to have earned such a fee that night. So with reluctant glance at the fire burning so temptingly bright upon the hearth, I replied "that I would accompany him," and drawing on my great coat and gathering the needful writing materials, we went out into the tempestuous night.

My companion stood by my side, conversing rapidly, giving me a lucid and satisfactory history of his family and the lady we were about to visit, causing his loud tones to be heard even above the wind, while I trudged desperately along, paying but little attention to him, thinking only of my anticipated fee, and wishing for the termination of the journey. We had proceeded in this way probably a dozen blocks, when my guide seized my arm, and pointing out a carriage in waiting near at hand, remarked that we would continue our route in the vehicle. Upon entering the carriage my garrulous companion became silent, and left me undisturbed to my own thoughts. After several vain attempts to penetrate the darkness and acquire some idea of our course, I settled myself back upon the cushions, satisfied of the futility of such an effort. The carriage rolled on for about an hour, and I was getting impatient, when a severe jolt and sudden stop brought us to our destination. We had halted before a large, dark house, in what section of the city, or country, it was impossible to discover, and as I passed over the tesselated vestibule to the hall, I nearly fell over one of a pair of sculptured lions, seemingly guarding the wide entrance. There was no light visible in the building, and my conductor grasping my hand, groped his way through numerous windings, until suddenly throwing open a door a flood of light dazzled my eyes, and for an instant blinded my sight.

After I had become somewhat accustomed to the sudden transition from the darkness, I gazed around and found myself in a large rectangular apartment, sumptuously furnished, and betraying upon every side evidences of opulence and refinement. In a small alcove to the right, was placed a bed with the curtains drawn close, and from which was occasionally emitted sighs and groans.

"Wal, lawyer, there's your client," said the man, pointing to the bed, "an' just do up this business as quick as you's kin. We don't want any time wasted in this 'ere arrangement."

At this injunction, I approached the alcove, and drawing aside the curtains, stood absolutely transfixed in amazement at the extreme loveliness of its occupant. In the course of extended travels I had seen the most noted beauties of every country, and am perfectly familiar with the lauded dark eyes of Spain; the blonde of merry England; the Mexican brunettes; the curly haired grisettes of France; the Italian Venuses; the houris of the mountains of Circassia; the healthful, robust German girls, and the cosmopolitan beauties of our own native land; but when I cast aside the curtain of that alcove, I exposed to view the most marvelous perfection of female charms, and the most adorable face that ever unsettled the mind of a straggling attorney. Masses of waving ringlets, the color of a deep chestnut brown, served to shade in beautiful contrast the alabaster brow, the breadth and high expanse of which, without a furrow to mar its beauty, indicated the intelligent soul that dwelt within. The little ear rosy and transparent; the brows tracing a graceful curve above the eyes and nearly meeting in an elegant arch towards the nose, the charming symmetry of which set off to best advantage the ruby lips; a cupid's bow, that slightly parted gave envious glimpse of the pearly teeth within; while on each dimpled cheek the carnation tints of the rose and the purity of the lily's white mingled their hues in beauteous rivalry. The frilled lace of the morning gown lay open to partial view a neck that put to shame the whitest swan's down. And the soft undulations of the gossamer covering exhibited distinctly the superb contour of a faultless bosom. An exquisitely shaped hand, spotless as the linen upon which it rested, displayed a circlet of gold, set with a brilliant of fabulous value, and this was the woman at the point of death, whose will I was to draw. I felt a singular and unaccustomed commotion within me; the blood rushed in torrents to my heart, and my arteries beat so violently that I fancied I could hear their very pulsations. I gazed wonderingly and admiringly into her dark hazle eyes, and there detected a virtuality of health, a radiance of youth and vigor, a spirituality innocence, that blended strangely with the look of timidity and confidence, expectancy and fear, with which she seemed to regard me.

"Wal, lawyer, hads't you's better begin, we's han't got time to wait; just draw up the form and fill it, an' leave the name blank, she can fix that part herself."

As the man spoke, a shudder ran through the fair form, and she turned on me a gaze heart-rending in its terror and despair, and absolutely beseeching in solicitude and anxiety.

What strange affair was this? What can this beautiful being have in connection with the rough and illiterate character who escorted me hither? What means this great dread she evinces of him? This silent appeal for aid and assistance? And this woman in joyous, happy health, why should she now be compelled to make her will? Why this urgency, that forced me forth in this storm of wind and rain?

These were the questions that flashed unanswered through my mind.

I prepared, however, to transact my business, and as I bent over her to ask, "if the act was of her own free will," she gave me an agonising look of distress, and whispered eagerly, "For the love of God, if you are a man, save me from——"

She paused suddenly, and I caught the malignant and threatening glance of the man, as he hurriedly interposed.

"Of course she does; why should she send for you's without; say, lawyer, you just draw that up, and no more palaver. I've got the rhino for you's, and I want you's to tend to yourself, so hurry up."

And by the way of emphasis, he conspicuously displayed a brace of Colt,s revolvers and an enormous "Bowie," placed in a belt under his coat, which he now threw open.

I proceeded nervously with the instrument of writing, and exactly how I got through I have never been able satisfactorily to determine. The distressed lady in the alcove, the grim Cerebus leaning near the mantel, and my own novel sensations of admiration, the inexplicable surroundings of mystery, completely bewildered, me.

I gave the lady the will, and as I bade her adieu, felt a slip of paper thrust into my hand, and received a mingled look of despair, confidence and hope.

The man led me from the room, and as I passed the marble lions in the vestibule, I seized the occasion to empty the contents of my pocket inkstand upon the immovable guardian on the right, in faint hope that by trace of that, I should be enabled to procure another interview with the fair unknown, who had made such an impression upon me.

I mechanically entered the carriage, was set down before my own door, and realized the fact that I was in my own office, grasping two fifty dollar bills in my hand, conscious of being soaked through to the skin, completely mystified—and indisputably in love.

I sat until broad daylight, without changing my position, pondering upon the unusual events of the night, and the singular surroundings. As I retrospected the different circumstances, I bethought me of the note which I held tightly compressed in my hand, and approaching the window I made out faintly traced with a trembling hand, these few lines:

"Save me, or there will be murder done—search me out. I am wealthy and can repay well. I am forced by my brother Mar——"

Here the note abruptly ceased, and had evidently been abruptly crumpled together. I was considerably agitated by its contents, and after a few hours necessary rest, sought advice and counsel of my foster brother, John Hall, in whose opinion I had always placed great reliance.

I related my story, and together we devised a plan for a most systematic search for the house I had visited upon the previous evening.

We took a radius of ten miles from my office, and dividing the enclosed space into districts and divisions, searched together most minutely and diligently through each division, but in vain. A sight of no such mansion rewarded our labors, and after three weeks of patient research, I should have come to the conclusion that I had dreamed, were it not for the tangible proofs of the two bank bills and the blurred note, in that fair, delicate chiography.

* * * * * * *

One day, about eight months after the provoking loss of all clue to my fair client of the stormy night, I was sitting in my office, and as is my wont in hours of leisure, indulging in the luxury of one of Barnard's best, I was attracted by the piercing screams of two or three boys, and on rushing into the street, found a poor little fellow, with his head badly cut, and the blood streaming from the wound, whilst his comrades gave vent to their fears, in a series of frightfully shrill shrieks.

I carried the little sufferer into my office, and soon succeeded in staunching the blood, and composing his companions sufficiently to learn the cause of the accident.

It appeared that they had daringly scaled the surrounding walls of a dreary old building directly opposite my office. This was an old English-built house, purchased some eighteen months previously by an East Indian, who for some unaccountable reason never occupied it, and studiously kept his name from public gossip. Since the purchase he had rigorously closed and shut his purchase from all intruders, but upon this day, the children determined to possess some honey-beans, which grew near the house, and were temptingly hanging within sight.

The lad boldly ascended the tree, and as he was ab ut to grasp a branch particularly rich with the coveted beans, he suddenly lost his balance and fell to the ground, where he lay at first senseless, and as they thought dead.

The wounded boy, however, contended that he did not slip, but that "it was the ghost that made him fall," and said that, "upon turning his eyes upon the window opposite the limb upon which he stood, he saw through the broken shutter-slat a dead woman in a bed, with a long dagger sticking from her breast," and this so alarmed him, that he loosened his hold and fell to the ground.

I attributed this vision to a disorded imagination, and dismissed the boy to his home. The little fellow passed my door daily on his way to school, and quite an intimacy was formed between us, and I found him so persistent and so straight in his story of seeing the dead woman, that I was at last persuaded to clamber over the wall and inspect the premises for myself.

I found the mansion dark, gloomy and forbidding. Not a single window in the vast structure was open, and the marks of neglect and decay were rapidly becoming visible. As we passed around the house, seeking for the broken slats, I suddenly paused. Before me, on the eastern side of the dwelling, there appeared a portico, with supporting columns, a stone-paved vestibule, and two marble reposing lions. I sprang with eagerness up the tottering steps, and upon the back of the figure on the left, I traced a long dark stain, such as would have been made by the ink I had emptied from the pocket stand.

This, then, was the mysterious, long sought-for house. Yes! there could be no doubt. The vestibule, the path, the huge bronze door. Yes! there could be no doubt—the marble lion marked indelibly with the ink I had spilled, marked it conclusively.

And our long and patient search has been for naught, simply because the object of that search was so very near, and the wearisome, tedious drive I took that night was to carry me across the street. And how cunningly was I blinded! I never could suspect that my near neighbor was the nightmare that ever kept my mind in incessant torture. As I thought of these things, I remembered the dead presence in the house, and determined to enter, to force my way in, to explore the interior and to satisfy myself of the reality of the youth's dread horror.

That very night, having provided myself with a dark lantern and a short stout crowbar, I scaled the walls, and forcing the fastenings of one of the lower shutters, entered the lonely and ghastly mansion. After investigating a number of unfurnished rooms without discovering anything worthy of attention, and only disturbing legions of rats and starting from their repose with a "whirr" the myriads of bats and other winged occupants of the old place, I came to a small door upon my extreme left looked fast, and further secured by a chain and bolt. With some effort, by aid of my iron bar I succeeded in forcing access, and entering, found myself in the familiar apartment where I had drawn up the mysterious testament.

But how changed! The rich furniture and magnificent tapestry covered with dirt and dust; the handsome ceiling was now frescoed by innumerable transversing spider webs, and a mouldy, sickly, overpowering smell pervaded the room. There was the alcove with its soiled curtains, still drawn close, and as I advanced to pull them aside, I saw, oh, horror! the festering corps of a human being. As I gazed upon the decomposing mass, I could define traces of the former beauty, and sadly realized that in the decaying clay before me, I beheld the remains of one, who had been my day dream of loveliness for months. Plunged between the ripe lips a dagger stood fixed, and upon a golden plate set in the jewelled handle, were graven the letters "M. K." I picked up from the floor a curious antique ring, and the topax setting bore upon its face in Hindoo characters the single word "Mark." A portion of a chain of cunning workmanship was grasped between the putrid hands, as if torn from the aggressor in the struggle, and upon one bony finger sparkled a single gem of the purest water, a gloomy mocker of wealth and honor amidst death and destruction.

Nothing more rewarded my search, so breathing a prayer of mercy for the victim, and a curse of vengeance upon her murderer, I quietly and sorrowfully withdrew. The next day I placed the authorities in possession of the facts, retaining by permision the dagger, antique ring and piece of chain.

The body was decently interred and followed to its last resting place by at least *one* sincere mourner, and the house was nailed up and left to the ravages of decay and ruin.

* * * * * * *

Some ten years had passed, and amidst the cares and troubles of an extensive professional career, I had nearly forgotten the incidents of the eventful night, and held the memory of the murdered martyr in the same veneration as I would that of a departed sister. The acutest officers of the law had been placed upon the case, and though they exerted themselves to the utmost, no clue was ever found to the dastardly assassin.

The court term was just over, and I felt the dire necessity of some species of recreation, when I received a letter from my foster-brother, now a prominent and successful merchant of *N*——, inviting me to spend a month or so with him. I had not seen him for nearly ten years, and had been in frequent reception of similar invitations, but had hitherto neither ability nor desire to leave my business; now I felt a strong inclination to visit him, and since he was fully acquainted with the circumstances of my adventure, I concluded to bundle up my relics and take them with me.

I received a hearty welcome from John, and was introduced to his somewhat numerous and interesting family, who spared no time or pains to make the visit of their bachelor uncle an agreeable one.

Four weeks glided away most pleasantly, and I began to regret my return to musty briefs and musty cases, when John dashed into the study room, where I sat engrossed in a game of chess with his amiable wife. His face was all radiant with smiles and flourishing above his head a couple of cards. "Hal, old boy," said he, "you know our Honorable Judge Kennert, late member from this district? Well, he offered himself for the Gubernatorial chair, and completely distanced all competitors. He is a most exemplary man, rigorously just, yet humane. His name generously heads all subscriptions for heathens and other missionary objects. He has munificently endowed several churches. He is a genial, social, whole-souled companion, extensively traveled, well-read, a brilliant conversationalist, universally beloved and immensely wealthy—and young too, scarcely turned fifty. In his usual grand style he proposes to give an anteinaugural levee, very select, I assure you, quite a treat to a man of your disposition, for there you will meet eminent statesmen, grave judges, noted politicians, talented wits, charming poets, accomplished musicians, skillful artists and Bohemians and literati of every grade; and our Hon. Gov.-elect has sent me an invitation for you and myself. Come now, are you not in luck—a comparative stranger, from the hidden, uncivilized and unknown village of B——, to receive a card to this *recherche* affair?"

I laughingly thanked him for his complimentary allusion to my native city, and accepted with pleasure the proffered card, for I had long desired an opportunity of meeting personally Governor Kennert, whose many acts of nobility formed the theme of praise in the mouth of every one.

The evening at last arrived. The princely mansion of the Governor beamed and glowed under the rays of a thousand lamps; long lines of handsome equipages, drawn by animals of the purest blood, discharged their happy freights at the open portals, where an army of richly liveried attendants ushered the visitors to the drawing rooms. It was a scene of rare magnificence. The extensive parlors were filled with hundreds of delighted guests—a moving pageant of flashing diamonds, rich laces, exquisite silks, showy satins, handsome beaux escorting dashing belles, myriads of glittering lights reflecting from the mirrored walls the gorgeous brilliancy of the dazzling splendor. Strains of entrancing music enlivened the scene, a fountain of ingenious and novel structure played jets of colored water sparkling with many hues into the marble basin below, where gold and silver fish swam in sportive innocence, whilst the atmosphere seemed burdened with the perfume of the rare exotics spread upon every side, and the sweet notes of the feathered songsters in the aviary, gathered from every clime, lent an additional charm to the festivities.

We drew near to Gov. Kennert. I do not know when I had seen a gentleman of such noble mein and commanding presence. Benignity appeared drawn in every feature; his smile was very sunshine; his laugh a ripple of music. Of medium height, hair black, sprinkled liberally with gray, smooth, round, smiling countenance, faultlessly dressed, characteristically urbane and gentlemanly; yet I felt a violent and unconquerable antipathy to this brilliant man. I received and accepted a forcible antagonism of sensibility, and felt as powerfully repugnant towards him, as I knew he was positively constrained towards me. Our greeting, though ceremoniously courteous, was devoid of cordiality. He held a fine India kerchief to his face during our interview, as John said was his custom, to conceal some disfiguring hereditary birth mark, and his face was singularly sweet and of great power; but the eye was the wondrous feature. It was a peculiar eye—an eye once seen never to be forgotten. It fascinated me; it drew me insidiously towards him. I was incapable of removing my own from it, and when, for the sake of avoiding apparant rudeness, I broke from its gaze, I involuntary sought it again. I had an indistinct recollection of having seen, some where, in some place and at some period of my life, a similar eye. It expressed to a casual observer only goodness, self-contentment and hospitality, but I saw a trembling restlessness, and perceived back, far back, way back in its very depths, a nervous anxiety, a wandering terror.

Where *had* I seen this remarkable expression before? Where?—I left our host sorely puzzling my brains, but to no purpose. I rambled through the rooms, looked on at the dancers, examined the paintings in the gallery, visited the conservatory, but everywhere that eye haunted me. I exerted my utmost to divest myself of this influence, but in vain, the eye was ever present. Finally, I sauntered into the library to smoke a cigar, my usual resource in trouble or vexation.

The same elegant taste was displayed in furnishing the library as had been exhibited in other portions of the dwelling. Long cases of rare and superbly bound volumes, *bijouterie* accumulated from every quarter of the globe, the walls hung with the favorite studies of the great masters themselves, unique and costly, smoking sets, voluptuous reclining and study chairs, luxuriously cushioned reposing divans, lamps burning with spiced and scented oils, imparted a delicious languor to the senses, and presented on all sides the same exquisite incentives to reflection and meditation. In one corner of the room, partially hidden by its more showy rivals, was an old *escritoire*, ancient, awkward, and strangely out of place, with its regal surroundings. My look intuitively turned towards it, a probable heir-loom, and only as such valuable, and seized with an irresistible impulse to examine it closer, I rose for the purpose, but accidentally tripping over a small ottoman, I stumbled and would have fallen had I not extended my hands and grasped the *escritoire*. It tottered and fell, the doors sprang open, and as I hastened to replace it, a secret drawer, (no doubt jarred loose by the fall,) flew open and disclosed a red wig and set of false sandy whiskers. I could scarcely credit my sight. I rubbed my eyes and tried to dispel the mist that seemed to surround me; but no! it was not hallucination, but a terrible reality. I stooped and raised them up together with the sheath of a Malay dagger, a portion of a chain of peculiar construction, to which was attached an antique topax seal, in Hindoo cut, "Mark," and oh! damning proof! *a double locket* containing the picture of *Governor Kennert, some ten or twelve years younger, and the likeness of his murdered sister*, the beautiful victim and my fair client of the mysterious house.

The vile assassin, then, was this good and great man! The brutal murderer of a helpless girl was this noble philanthropist! *Hers* were the eyes I saw so vividly reflected in *his*; now I understood the peculiar repugence with which he inspired me, the antagonistic distrust I manifested towards him. The murderer could have no sympathy in common. I carefully replaced the tell-tale drawer, and with blanched cheek and beating heart sought the drawing-room.

"Why, Hal, you look as if you had seen a ghost!" said a cheery voice, and John tapped me gently on the shoulder. I called him aside, and in as few words as possible communicated to him the particulars of my discovery, and urging upon him the necessity of the utmost caution and circumspection, desired him to procure, if but for one moment, the removal of the handkerchief kept so assiduously to his face.

Impressed by my serious manner, he gravely approached our host, and drawing near, he made some pretense to grasp the arm. As the handkerchief fell to the ground, I perceived distinctly visible, upon the livid cheek, the peculiar scar, that had so conspicuously attracted my attention years before on that fearful, eventful, stormy night.

* * *

The proofs were conclusive, and the next morning the Honorable Gov.-elect, Mr. Mark Kennert, to the infinite surprise and scandal of all who knew him, was safely encased in the public jail upon the capital charge of murder.

When confronted with the sad mementoes of the crime, found near his sister's body, his fortitude gave way, and he made a full and voluntary confession. How, the agent of his sister, who was the relict of a wealthy East Indian, he had purchased the property in B——; how he had induced his sister to pay a visit there; how, tempted by the enormous sum of five millions sterling, he had conceived the idea of appropriating it to his own use. What subterfuge he made use of, to get possession of the property; how he had finally forced her under fear of death to sign the will making him sole owner; how he had sought me in disguise upon the stormy night as best suited his purpose. That he never intended personal injury, but that in reviving courage, she afterwards endeavored to destroy the will, and under the impulse of anger he had stabbed her to the heart; the terrible years of hypocrisy and remorse, the threatening spectre of his victim continually haunting him, the constant fear of detection; and how through all these years he had tried to make some amends by leading a life of strict probity and liberal good deeds; how he had perversely kept ever near him the proofs of his heinous crime.

Conviction followed, and upon the very day appointed for his occupancy of the Gubernatorial chair, Mark Kennert, the destroyer of the only being I ever could have loved, expiated his horrible crime upon the scaffold.—*Baltimore Telegram.*

The Same Idea from Different Points of View.

The late Dr. C—— was distinguished no less for his hospitality than his wit. One day a patient, who was also a personal friend, called on him in his office, which was in the basement of his house, and opened his grief. The doctor asked many questions, and finally wrote a prescription, which he handed to the patient, saying. "My dear sir, if you will take this, and be prudent in your diet, and especially in the matter of stimulants, you will recover. But it is my duty to tell you that a single glass of wine or spirits may have serious consequences. Now let us go up and see Mrs. C——." Arrived in the parlor, the doctor walked to the sideboard, and taking out a decanter and a couple of wine-glasses, he said: "Join me in a glass of wine." "Why exclaimed his horrified guest, "you just now said it would kill me!" "Oh," rejoined the doctor, waving his hand, "that was in the office—*this is in the parlor.*"—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

Recent Solar Researches.

Since the great eclipse of 1868, our knowledge respecting the constitution of the sun has been steadily progressing. One discovery after another has been made, and there really seems to be no reason for believing that we have as yet nearly reached the limits of the knowledge which spectroscopic analysis is capable of supplying. Indeed, the invention of a new form of spectroscope—the ingenious automatic spectroscope of Mr. Browning—promises soon to be rewarded by a series of discoveries as important as any which have hitherto been made. We propose briefly to indicate the present position of our knowledge respecting the great central luminary of our system.

The spectroscopic observation of the eclipse of August, 1868, had shown that the strange prominences seen during total eclipses of the sun are vast masses of luminous vapor, hydrogen flames, we may call them, considering how largely hydrogen enters into their constitution. Only we must remember that it is hydrogen glowing from intensity of heat simply, and not burning hydrogen, that constitutes these prominences. Now it had long been recognized that the colored prominences spring from an envelope of a similar nature surrounding the whole surface of the sun. Father Secchi, of the Collegio Romano, in a lecture given to the pupils of the Ecole Ste. Genevieve, had thus, in 1867, described this envelope (whose existence he was the first to recognize): "The observation of eclipses furnishes indisputable evidence that the sun is really surrounded by a layer of red matter, of which we commonly see no more than the most elevated points." One of the first and most interesting results of the eclipse observations was Mr. Lockyer's confirmation of the justice of this opinion. He and Janssen had independently shown that the existence of prominences can be recognized when the sun is not eclipsed; and the same method supplied clear evidence of the existence of this red envelope, to which Mr. Lockyer gave the name of *Chromosphere*. Remembering who first indicated its existence as "indisputable," we may conveniently call it Secchi's Chromosphere.

Both the chromosphere and the prominences consist of glowing vapor. But there is a difference in their constitution. In the prominences there are but very few constituent vapours. Hydrogen is there, and another vapour whose nature is as yet undetermined, while occasionally there are the vapours of other elements. But in the chromosphere there are commonly several elements, and sometimes there are many.

Here, then, we have above the photosphere of the sun a vapourous envelope, obviously of a complicated structure, and perhaps far more complicated than it has yet been proved to be. For it must be remembered that the lowest layers of this envelope might be composed of the vapours of various elements, and yet no record of their existence be recognised. A depth of ten miles would correspond to so small a proportion of the sun's diameter (about the 85,000th part) as to be wholly unrecognizable by any telescopic power men can hope to attain. If any of our readers are telescopists, they will know what force there lies in the remark that such a distance would substend about the 44th part of a second of arc, so that no less than twenty-six such distances could be placed between the components of that well-known test-object—the double companion of the star Gamma Andromedæ.

Next below this colored envelope there is a mottled photosphere, either a white-hot surface with dark pores all over it, or, according to other and better authorities, a surface of white-hot spots spread over a relatively dark background. Here we are describing merely its appearance; what the constitution of the surface may in reality be remains yet to be determined.

Beneath the photosphere there are vast depths of vapour, for when the photosphere is broken through where spots are formed, the spectroscope tells us that the relatively dark regions thus disclosed are filled with the vapours of various elements. We know that the dark lines which cross the rainbow-tinted solar spectrum are caused by the light-absorbing action of the vapors which surround the sun, and these lines are seen more distinctly in the spectrum of a sun-spot than in that of the photosphere.

Now, it is worthy of notice that all that has thus far been discovered tends to confirm the theory put forward nearly a century ago by Sir William Herschel. That thoughtful observer recognized in the solar photosphere a widely extended layer of luminous clouds, while he regarded the light of the penumbræ of sun-spots as coming from a lower cloud-layer. He conceived that up-rushes of vapor thrusting aside both layers, caused the appearance of a solar spot. We have heard a great deal lately of the English and Continental theories of the solar constitution; but the evidence that we have recently obtained goes far to show that, after all, Sir Herschel without the aid of spectroscope or polariscope formed a juster view of the solar constitution than any which has been recently propounded. He was doubtless mistaken in the view (which he put forward as a mere hypothesis) that the real surface of the sun may not be very intensely heated. We have every reason to believe that the whole mass of the sun is raised to an inconceivable degree of heat. But for the rest, there seems to be far more reason to believe in Sir William Herschel's cloud-layer theory, than in any other which has been put forward in recent times.

Let us consider some of the consequences of such a constitution. Imagine the ascent of vapours of many elements from the fluid surface of the solar ocean. This mixed atmosphere is in reality aglow with the intensest heat and light, so that if we could examine its spectrum separately, we should see the bright lines of the various vaporous elements which constitute it. But, intensely hot as it is, it must yet be less hot than the surface from which it has risen, because the formation of vapor is a process in which heat is used up. And, therefore, by a well known law the spectrum of the light from the white hot surface shining through the atmosphere will be a rainbow tinted streak crossed by the dark lines corresponding to the various elements composing that atmosphere. But as the lighter vapors in this mixed atmosphere ascend, they reach a region of less pressure and a region where they can part more freely with their heat. Thus, precisely as the cumulous clouds form in our atmosphere, so would a layer of clouds be formed somewhat low down in the solar atmosphere. But from the upper surface of this layer the vapors of the elements composing the clouds would rise again to confidense at a higher level, much as the light cirrus clouds in our own atmosphere form at a great height above the layer of cumulous clouds.

The great difference between this process and what takes place in our own atmosphere would consist in the fact that whereas the only kind of cloud which can form in our air is a water-cloud, there can be formed in the solar atmosphere clouds of iron, copper, zinc, and other elements, each element having its own distinct range, so to speak, within the limits of the solar atmosphere.

Now with such processes as these going on, we can conceive how rushes of heated gas might from time to time thrust aside the cloud layers; and how where this happened we should occasionally recognize the bright lines corresponding to the more intensely heated gas, as well as the dark lines corresponding to the deep vapor masses laid bare by the removal of the photosphere. And precisely in this way do the observations recently made by Mr. Lockyer seem alone to be explicable. He sees the glowing vapours above the photosphere stirred from time to time by fierce tempests, nay, he is enabled to measure (very roughly, of course) the velocity with which these solar winds urge their way through the atmosphere itself, in the neighborhood of the spots. The progress of these hurricanes is often indicated by the appearance of bright lines in the spectrum where usually dark lines are seen.

Truly, Kirchhoff's discovery of the significance of the spectral lines is bearing wonderful fruit! Who would have thought that researches carried on with a few triangular prisms of glass on the light from such a substance as sodium, the basis of our commonplace soda, would lead to the result that solar tornadoes could be watched as readily with the spectroscope, as in Galileo's time the sun-spots themselves could be traced across the sun's disc with the telescope?—*London Spectator.*

What is known about Hydrophobia.

Dr. John P. Garrish lately delivered a lecture at New York upon "hydrophobia, its history, symptoms, and treatment," in which he said hydrophobia occurs more frequently in northern than in southern latitudes. The susceptibility of contagion from rabies is confined mostly to a period of seven weeks after the bite of the rabid animal. As the largest number of cases of hydrophobia are reported in the months of September, November and December, it may therefore be assumed that the majority of victims are bitten during the dog days. The bite of a dog that is merely angry and not rabid does not, in Dr. Garrish's opinion, engender hydrophobia. The poison is rarely communicated to the system where the animal bites through the clothes. In order that the malady shall be developed, it is necessary that the saliva of the dog must come in actual contact with a wounded or abraded surface. When one has been bitten by a dog, the animal should not be killed on suspicion of rabidness but kept confined, in order that the physician may construe subsequent symptoms of the patient. Fits are conclusive evidence that the dog is not mad. The rabid dog does not shun the water. He will lap it, but he cannot take large swallows by reason of the invariable paralysis of the muscles about the jaws and throat, a sign by which madness can always be detected. Hydrophobia fully developed in the human system is incurable. But if treated before the period of "incubation," as it is called, has passed by (which varies from three to seven weeks), the poison may be eliminated from the system. One of the physicians in attendance at the lecture, Dr. Alexander Steri, mentioned that the celebrated Dr. Youatt, whose works on the domestic animals are well known, was bitten thirteen times by rabid animals, once on the lip by a rabid cat, and that he had himself been bitten by a mad dog only two years ago. In these cases the cure had been effected by immediate excision of the parts and cauterization. Dr. Garrish inclined to regard the vapor bath as the most efficient remedy for hydrophobia, and condemned the use of stimulants in all cases of venomous bites. In the opening part of his lecture Dr. Garrish referred to the cases of hydrophobia as a mystery, wholly unknown for many years and still imperfectly understood. There can be little doubt that in many cases it is the result of the artificial life which dogs lead as human companions in a state of the highest civilization. In South America, where the dog lives in a state of nature, the malady is unknown. Shut out from the society of his kind, in the house or upon the lawn of his master, the poor dog is driven into the rabid condition by man's ignorantly cruel inattention to his wants. Muzzles and canine solitude produce more cases of rabies than in the summer heat.

The Father's Love.

There was a family in Manchester composed of two sons, a daughter, and their father. The poor mother had died happy in the Lord. One of the lads, however, was addicted to what I used to be—to visiting liquor vaults. Oh! I have no comfort as I look into them, and see them brightly lighted up, and men and women, and little children standing round them. Don't countenance the devil's works; have nothing to do with them; they are slaughter houses; they are taking away the bread out of the poor children's mouths, and robbing the wives of the comfort of their homes and all their happiness. But, as I said, one of these lads was a visitor at the theatres, saloons, and liquor-shops. His character was blasted, and all hopes of doing better blighted; his home was neglected and deserted by him; but his father, who had a loving heart, never turned the key against him, but the door was always open for him whenever he would return.

The brother and sister were members of a chapel, and looked upon this young man as a disgrace to them and to his father's house. They tried, therefore to prevail upon their father to turn him out, as he would only bring reproach upon them all. But the father said to them: "You are only his brother and sister, but I am his father and I will never turn him out." Finding that they could not prevail upon him they induced a friend to go to the father and persuade him to shut his door against the prodigal; but the old man's reply was: "You are his friend, but I am his father, and I can never do this. But we will meet on a given day, and try and bring this business to a conclusion. We will meet here with his brother and sister and himself, and see whether we are to shut the door against him or not."

The day came and they met at his father's house and had tea together. The others sat round the table comfortably, but the poor prodigal had to sit in a corner, and his tea was handed to him, as he was not allowed to sit with his brother and sister. After tea the father said: "Now we must all have a conference to see what is to be done with this poor prodigal." He looked at him with tears in his eyes, and then he turned to his brother and said: "You are his brother and I am his father; can you sit by and see me turn your brother out?" "Oh! yes," said the brother. Then the old man turned to his daughter and said: "You are his sister and I am his father; can you sit by and see me turn your brother out of doors?" "Oh! yes, father, or he will bring disgrace upon us all," said the sister. Then he turned to the friend (but I do not think he was any friend to him at all) and said to him: "You are his friend, are you not? and can you sit by and see me turn my son out?" "Yes," the friend replied, "I could." Then the old man, turning to them all, said, "You are his brother, and you are his sister, and you are his friend, but I am his father;" and he went and fell on the prodigal's neck and said: "God bless the lad; though all should shut up their hearts against thee, thy poor father will never harden his heart against thee, nor turn thee out of doors." The poor lad put his arms around his father's neck, and said: "Oh, father! will you forgive me?" His father forgave him and he found peace and pardon on his bended knees, and to-night he is a preacher of Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

There are some persons who would turn us out of Heaven if they could; but thank God, we have a friend. God loves us all, in spite of our sins. Let us thank God, my friends we have One who loves us at all times.

"He saw us ruined by the fall,
Yet, loved us, notwithstanding all."

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